BYAAAAH!!!

NO WEBSITE
NO MIRC
NO E-MAIL

HERE'S THE 4TH VOLUME OF THE MANGA: NODAME CANTABILE.
FOR THE FANS BY A FAN.
REMEMBER, IF YOU LIKE IT, GO BUY IT!
PAGES HAVE BEEN CROPPED TO GET RID OF THE GUTTER,
BUT IT'S STILL VISIBLE,
AS I REALLY DON'T CARE TOO MUCH ABOUT THE QUALITY.
SCANNED > CROPPED > CLEANED > SAVED.
ALSO I'VE DONE A QUICK JOB ON ANY DOUBLE PAGE SPREADS,
JUST TO MAKE IT EASIER TO READ.
IF YOU DON'T LIKE MY ATTEMPT, GO BUY IT FOR
YOURSELVES AND ENJOY YOUR OWN VERSION..
ANYHOW ENJOY!

NEXT UP: DUNNO YET!
NOTE: THAT'S THE 4TH ONE DONE,
AND NOW I HAVE TO SCAN AGAIN. =O
AGAIN BUSY WITH WORK, SO THERE MAYBE A SMALL
DELAY IN THE NEXT RELEASE. ALSO I HAVE TO CATCH UP
WITH ALL MY OTHER PROJECTS TOO.
THOUGHT I'D TRY THIS FOR A CHANGE: P SHOUT OUT TO:
CATCHANSCANS, V-PROJECT, SAD, M-S!!

PS. AND YES, I SPELLCHECKED IT THIS TIME....
WOW SO MANY MISTAKES

RU

4

Nodame Cantabile

TOMOKO NINOMIYA

Winner of the Kodansha Manga of the Year Award

Nodame Cantabile 4

TOMOKO NINOMIYA

Ballantine Books

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DIS-BAND CAMP

Milch may be down, but he's definitely not out. In fact, he's back to take (or is it to force?) the gang to participate in the Nagano Music Festival. In preparation for the festival, the students go to a band camp where they do much more than just play music. Chiaki confronts his fear of the ocean; Mine spends his time getting a tan worth singing about; and Nodame the "orangutan," after the humiliation of getting kicked out of a master class, gets set to prove that she can really play the piano. There are plenty of high jinks—and nobody escapes unscathed.

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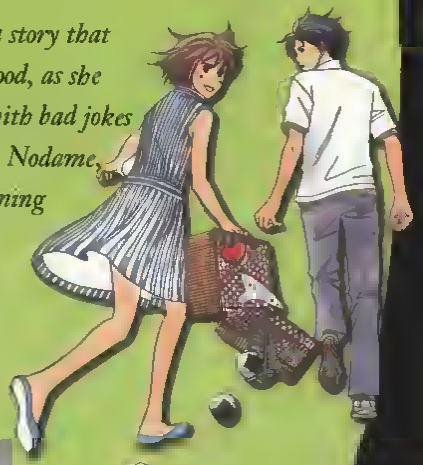

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Nodame Cantabile
TOMOKO NINOMIYA
of the Kodansha Manga of the Year Award

Nodame Cantabile

4

TOMOKO NINOMIYA

TRANSLATED AND ADAPTED BY
David and Eriko Walsh

LETTERED BY
Michaelis/Carpelis Design

BALLANTINE BOOKS • NEW YORK

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A Note from the Author

I wonder if I should buy a piano.
Tomoko Ninomiya

Honorifics Explained

Throughout the Del Rey Manga books, you will find Japanese honorifics left intact in the translations. For those not familiar with how the Japanese use honorifics and, more important, how they differ from American honorifics, we present this brief overview.

Politeness has always been a critical facet of Japanese culture. Ever since the feudal era, when Japan was a highly stratified society, use of honorifics—which can be defined as polite speech that indicates relationship or status—has played an essential role in the Japanese language. When addressing someone in Japanese, an honorific usually takes the form of a suffix attached to one's name (example: "Asuna-san"), or as a title at the end of one's name or in place of the name itself (example: "Negi-sensei," or simply "Sensei!").

Honorifics can be expressions of respect or endearment. In the context of manga and anime, honorifics give insight into the nature of the relationship between characters. Many English translations leave out these important honorifics, and therefore distort the "feel" of the original Japanese. Because Japanese honorifics contain nuances that English honorifics lack, it is our policy at Del Rey not to translate them. Here, instead, is a guide to some of the honorifics you may encounter in Del Rey Manga.

-san: This is the most common honorific and is equivalent to Mr., Miss, Ms., or Mrs. It is the all-purpose honorific and can be used in any situation where politeness is required.

-sama: This is one level higher than "-san" and is used to confer great respect.

-dono: This comes from the word "tono," which means "lord." It is an even higher level than "-sama" and confers utmost respect.

-kun: This suffix is used at the end of boys' names to express familiarity or endearment. It is also sometimes used by men among friends, or when addressing someone younger or of a lower station.

-chan: This is used to express endearment, mostly toward girls. It is also used for little boys, pets, and even among lovers. It gives a sense of childish cuteness.

Bozu: This is an informal way to refer to a boy, similar to the English term "kid" or "squirt."

Sempai: This title suggests that the addressee is one's senior in a group or organization. It is most often used in a school setting, where underclassmen refer to their upperclassmen as "sempai." It can also be used in the workplace, such as when a newer employee addresses an employee who has seniority in the company.

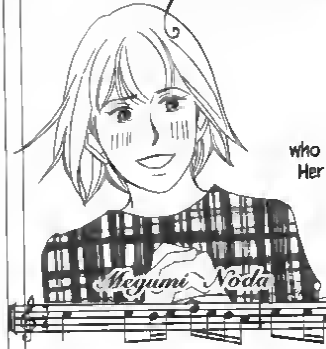
Kohai: This is the opposite of "sempai" and is used toward underclassmen in school or newcomers in the workplace. It connotes that the addressee is of a lower station.

Sensei: Literally meaning "one who has come before," this title is used for teachers, doctors, or masters of any profession or art.

[blank]: Usually forgotten in these lists, but perhaps the most significant difference between Japanese and English. The lack of honorific means that the speaker has permission to address the person in a very intimate way. Usually, only family, spouses, or very close friends have this kind of permission. Known as *yobisute,* it can be gratifying when someone who has earned the intimacy starts to call one by one's name without an honorific. But when that intimacy hasn't been earned, it can be very insulting.

のだめカンタービレ
Nodame Cantabile
#4
二ノ宮知子
NINOMIYA TOMOKO

Introducing the residents of
Nodame's Kingdom
Capriccio Cantabile! ♥
Gabon...!! (Nodame-speak)

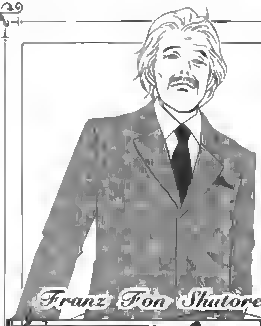


Noda Megumi
Nickname: Nodame
3rd year Piano student
She's a free-spirited wonder girl
who has a carefree style of playing piano.
Her love for Chiaki has been set ablaze!
She sprinkles "Nodame poison,"
but she's about to crash. ♥

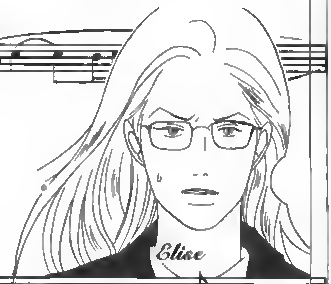
Chiaki Shinichi
4th year Piano student
He is the son of a famous pianist
and a student at an elite university.
He debuts as a conductor and he's always
a cool and handsome man!

Mine Ryutaro
3rd year Violin student
His father owns a Chinese restaurant
"Uraken" right next to the university.
He's a good person who sustains a good
man-woman friendship with Nodame
while maintaining a
good male friend-
ship with Chiaki!

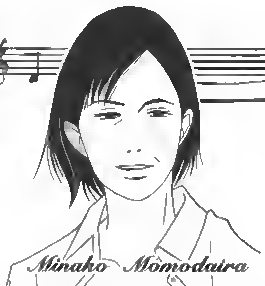
Okuyama Masumi
4th year Orchestral
Music student
He's claustrophobic
and a timpanist.
Okuyama is also
in love with Chiaki,
and thinks Nodame
is his rival.
Is he a girl?
No! No! Okuyama
is a boy with a
mustache!



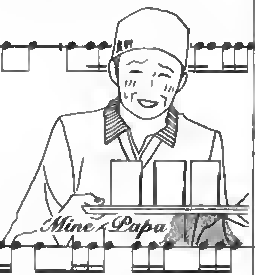
Franz von Stresemann
(also calls himself Milch Holstein)
He's from Germany and calls himself a world-famous conductor. This dirty old man wants to sexually harass Nodame... but now his romance in the past is discovered!?



Elise
This beauty who gets off the helicopter so suddenly, what is her true color? That's Milch's secretary.
♡



Minako Momodaira
Nickname: Mina
She's the Director of the university that Nodame attends. Was there a romance between Milch and her in the past!?



Mine Papa
He is very well-liked in the series. So he is in "Nodame's Kingdom" every time. He is one who knows about Mina's past.

Nodame Cantabile

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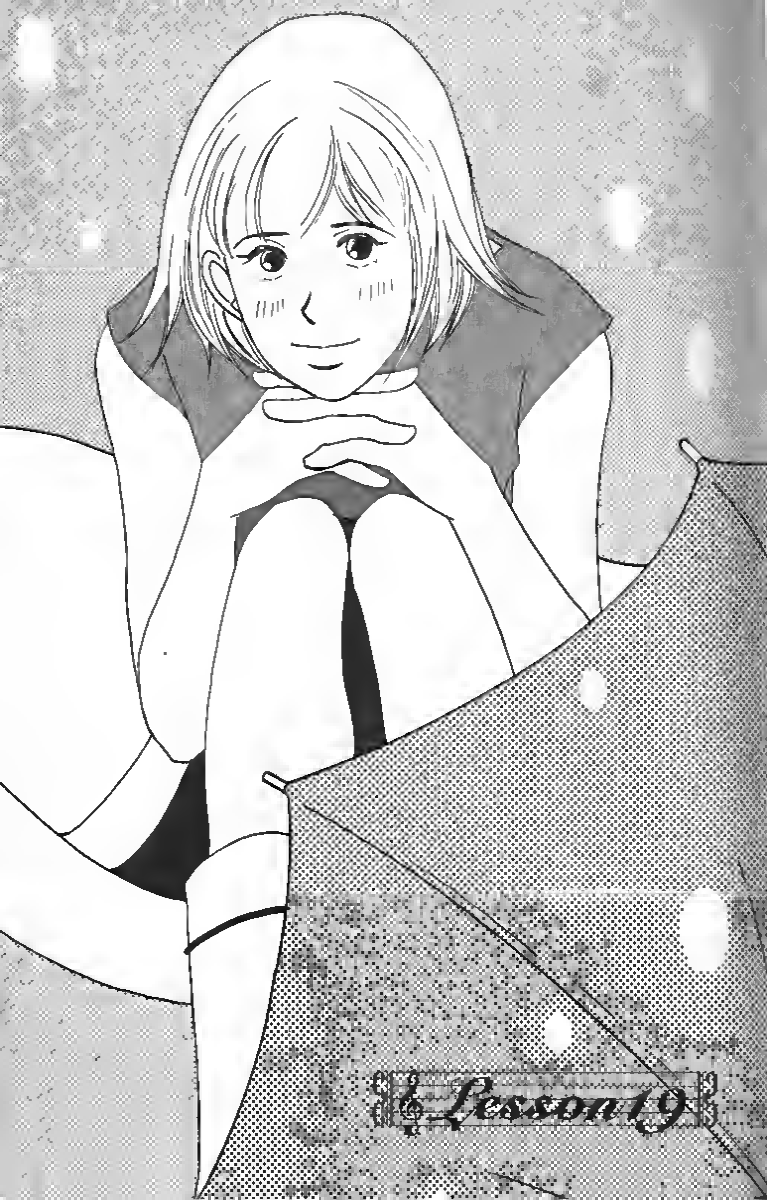
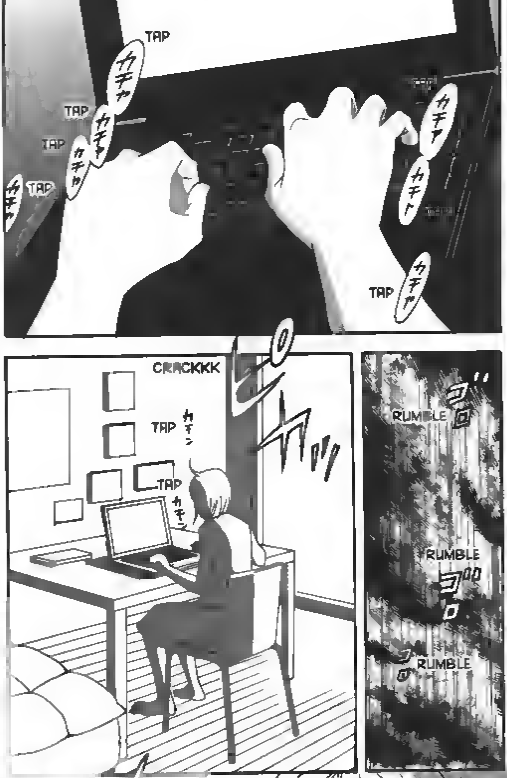
(RIKA-CHAN-SENSEI'S FUN BRIERU)

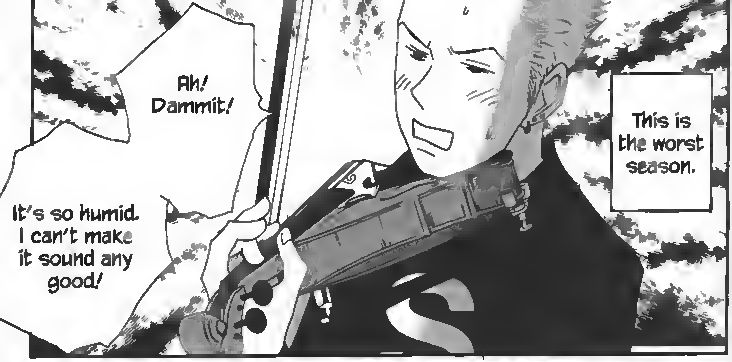
TOMOKO NINOMIYA


Lesson19


TAP
TAP
TAP

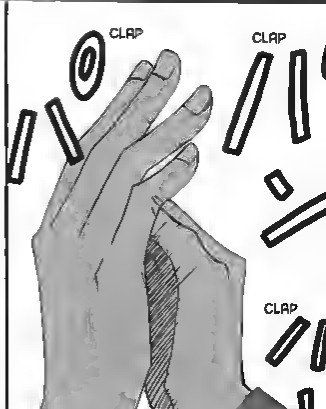
Coming!
Nodame!
We should leave for school now!
Why did you have to play on the internet at my place!?
Because
Sempai, you have a DSL connection.
And my telephone's been disconnected.
Again!!?
KSHHH
Wow...
It's raining cats and dogs.

Rainy season is coming to an end
KSHHH
FLP
FLP
FLOP
FLOP
WIGGLE
Oh...!
Stored on the balcony so it's damaged
No way!
Stop being so mean to me!
KSHHH
One month has passed since their public performance
No!
Sempai, can I share your umbrella? ♡



† We usually can't use them in Japan.

Wait, wait!
CLAP
CLAP
You're just wasting your time!
Here comes the monster...


CLAP
CLAP
CLAP

So I suggest...
No matter how hard you try, you'll only do your worst on a day like today.

Excuse me, Great Master...
Didn't you desert the S orchestra?
Huh?
What-ever do you mean?

HUH!?
Party!
Let's have a gokon!
Again!?

GRUMBLE GRUMBLE
That's right! You betrayed us, Great Master!
Whoever wants to go to the gokon...
HSSSS
You just want to sexually harass more girls!
We don't want to go!
Eh?
Grab his chest!!
Then...
I understand.
WAHHH
KYAAA
We are beaten...
We're going too!
If the girls are going...
KYAAA
I'll go!!

If that's the case, then teach me something better!
A pupil must obey his Master!
We're going to Shibuya, right?
PHEWW
Why do I have to go!?
Waaahh!!
Nodame wants to go to the gokon too!
I can eat!
Chiaki-sempai!
Hey, here comes the mascot girl.
S
This is my brand-new dress!!
DRIP
GRBK
SPLASH
Geez...
S

Huh!?
Don't worry. I'll buy you a newer dress on the way to Shibuya. ♡
HA HA HA...
Re lly!?
I would love to buy you one. ♡

You've been wearing it for 3 days!
That's not a new dress!
For 3 days...
This is a good time to wash it. Go home and do your laundry!!

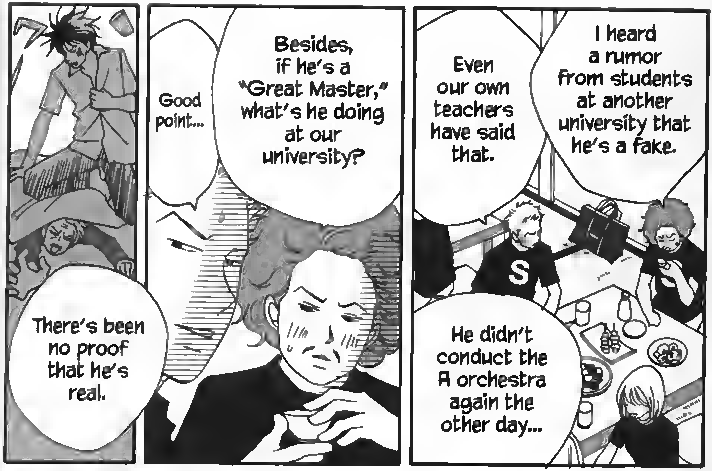
Nodame-chan... You poor thing!
Oh

Nodame-chan!
You look cute. ♡

UTSUBOHACHI
L.O.V.E.!

Excellent, Great Master!
OH!
WOW
This is the first time you did something good!
Do you really think so?
Hey... Is that a swimming suit she's wearing?
That's a swimming suit.
Then... If I lose, Chiaki will take his clothes off!
He's my pupil.
But...
I don't want to see you with your clothes off.
WOW
So Nodame-chan! Let's play yakyuken!
Huh!?
DO IT!
OHH
CLAP
CLAP

This is what we do...
Stop singing!
When we play yakyuken...
WHAA WHAA
I accept!!
YEAH!
WOW
No way!!
You know... I still wonder...
WHAA
Is he the real Stresemann?
Take your clothes off! Chiaki!
I lost.
He doesn't have any dignity at all!
Stop doing that!
And he's very nasty.
And he's not very considerate!
I haven't figured him out yet.
I wonder too.


There's been no proof that he's real.
Good point...
Besides, if he's a "Great Master," what's he doing at our university?
He didn't conduct the A orchestra again the other day...
Even our own teachers have said that.
I heard a rumor from students at another university that he's a fake.

He's real.
I have a headache...

Otherwise I wouldn't have wanted to be his pupil...
He is the real Stresemann!
But he's only conducted one time!
Really?
I can tell when I watch him conduct.
He's real!
I'm sure of it.
Why did he bring that up now...?
Wow...
The dried bonito fish is dancing.

Start without me!
Sempai! Your takoyaki is gonna get cold!
Takoyaki
CLK
カチャ
I wonder...
Search...
ﾊｯ!
SHONNGG
Is it a big story that Stresemann is in Japan?

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OUTDOORS, GAMES, CARS, SPORTS, TRAVEL,
COMPUTER & INTERNET
HARDWARE, SOFTWARE, WWW. - LISTINGS
ZIP CODES, TELEPHONE NUMBERS
What...!?
You noticed!
Oh...
KACHA
What font is this!?
Nodame designed it. ♡
Isn't it great!?
WHACK
I can't read a stupid font like this!!
I named it "Misoji."
Cute, huh!? ♡

I don't care if you say no!!
No...
No-o-o-o!!
You'll be able to read it when you get used to it!
Change it back to my old one!!
Put it back to how it was!!
PULL
CLICK
stresemann
Search
Overseas search...
I got it!
Actually, this font doesn't look so bad.
Dammit!
I can't believe the Nodame I know could actually design a font!
Eh...

Missing! Master Strezemann

Maestro Stresemann
February 8th
Franz von Stresemann, last seen at the hotel he was staying in, disappeared the day after a public performance in London.
No way...
A search has also been requested in many other central European...
His manager and staff commented "He's on vacation as usual" and deny he has Alzheimer's disease, although the police have been asked to begin a search.

FWI
FWI
FWI
FWI
FWI
FWI
FWI
FWI
FWI
FWI
What's happening?
A helicopter!?
Gyabo!
It's landing on our rooftop!?

Do we have a heli-pad on our roof?
What's going on here...?
FWI
FWI
Are you sure this is the school!?
FWI
FWI
Yes, ma'am!
Oliver, let's go!
FWI
Right here! ♡
Look, look!
TOKYO SEXY GUIDE
100 SPOTS
Sexy Hot Spots
Shinjuku
Roppongi
Shibuya
Chiaki!
I found you!

FWI
I can't hear you!
Eh!?
You want to go with me?
I can't read kanji.
Can you read this article about "The Health Garden"?
FWI
FWI
What are you doing...?
Wow... Nasty!
FWI
FWI
FWI
FWI
Franz!
Let's go... tonight... just the two of us...

Elise!
We've been looking for you!
Maestro!
Ah!
He ran away.
DASH
KACHI
SPRINT
WHAA!
Oliver!
Yes, ma'am!
Damn him!

FFFFFH
I thought he was more settled down these days...
She's scary...
I caught him!
ピピピッ
BEEP BEEP
Good.
Tie him up and put him in the helicopter.
Phew... I'm hungry!
We'll be leaving now.
Einen Augenblick! [Excuse me!]
Entschuldigen Sie, [Excuse me, miss]
wer sind Sie denn? [Can I ask you who you are...?]

I am Maestro Stresemann's secretary...
His manager.
Manager...
How did you find out
He was at this university?
If you're planning on suing the Maestro, you can contact his attorney.
For womanizing
No, that's not what I meant...
This is why.
Why would a Great Master come to Japan?
Why would you think that?
HN
A hunch.

Minako Momodaira
This is a friend of his from his college days.
Who is she?
Wow! She's pretty!
She's the Director at this university.
FWI
FWI
FWI
FWI
The Maestro always carried this picture with him.
That's how I knew he'd be here.
Goodbye.
Eh!?

VROOOM

Franz von Stresemann

Returned
(Forced repatriation)

But...
Did Milch ever actually see the director?
Hm... So I guess he came to see her.
URAKEN
URAKEN
That's a good enough reason.
I heard she's been sick in a hospital for a long time.
Oh, really!?
GET
Who cares if that dirty old pervert is gone!
Well, it's OK with me!
HA HA HA
GET THE BLUES
No way...
That's what I think.
Do you think he never got to see her!?
Poor Milch...
GET THE BLUES

Maybe the Great Master was a pervert...
Do you want some of my curry?
Snap out of it!
Chiaki!
Right?
but there were a lot of things I wanted him to teach me.
Dad, do you know her?
Eh?
The director?
The director was such a beautiful girl.
This is very surprising.
URAKEN
URAKEN

This is a picture of her one time when she ate enough for ten people!
Look...
I have a picture of her!
A long time ago, I used to deliver to her a lot.
Do you think he'd be happier that he didn't see her...?

Lesson 20

She dazzled everyone's eyes
She was an "Oriental Jewel."
And she was beautiful.
Her piano playing was delicate, beautiful, and passionate
A HA HA
Good morning

Have I lost another Great Master...?
はあ
PHEW...
Stresemann returned 2 days later
Good morning.
Good morning.
KYHAA
キャー
Chiaki-sempai...
Chiaki-sama sighed...♡
キャー
HUH
Cheer up, please!
How cool...
Good morning!
That makes me feel even worse.
Don't say that.
Milch may not be here, but Nodame's here for you. ♡
Huh!/ Why!/?

Huh...
Wha...?
Milch! You went back to Germany, didn't you?
I did return, but now I'm back here to stay.
120 yen
Chiaki, can I borrow some small change? ♡
You came just in time!
CHIAKI
Great!
Someday I'll give you a ride.
Wow! You have your own jet!?
HA HA HA
I had to hijack my own jet.
Why do you think he wanted to come back to Japan so badly?
He got away from them....
By hijacking his own jet...
I'll ride. I'll ride. ♡
Yipee!

She's been in the hospital all this time, hasn't she?
But if he really wanted to go see her, he would have gone to see her...
Well, he probably wants to see the director.
Right?
EH/
OH/
According to my dad, anyway.
I heard she was getting out of the hospital and would be back at work soon.
I bet 30 Euro.
I bet 20 Euro he leaves after he sees her.
I bet 3 Euro on his love!
Why do you have to bet in Euro?
Then he'll see his first love (?) again ♡
Good for you, Mitch/
But...

Eh!?
Stop! Stop!
Under-stand?
Like that!
Ta-ra-ra ta pan!!
CLAP
What...
He's butting in.
Why aren't you playing that right?
That's not how Chiaki said to do it!

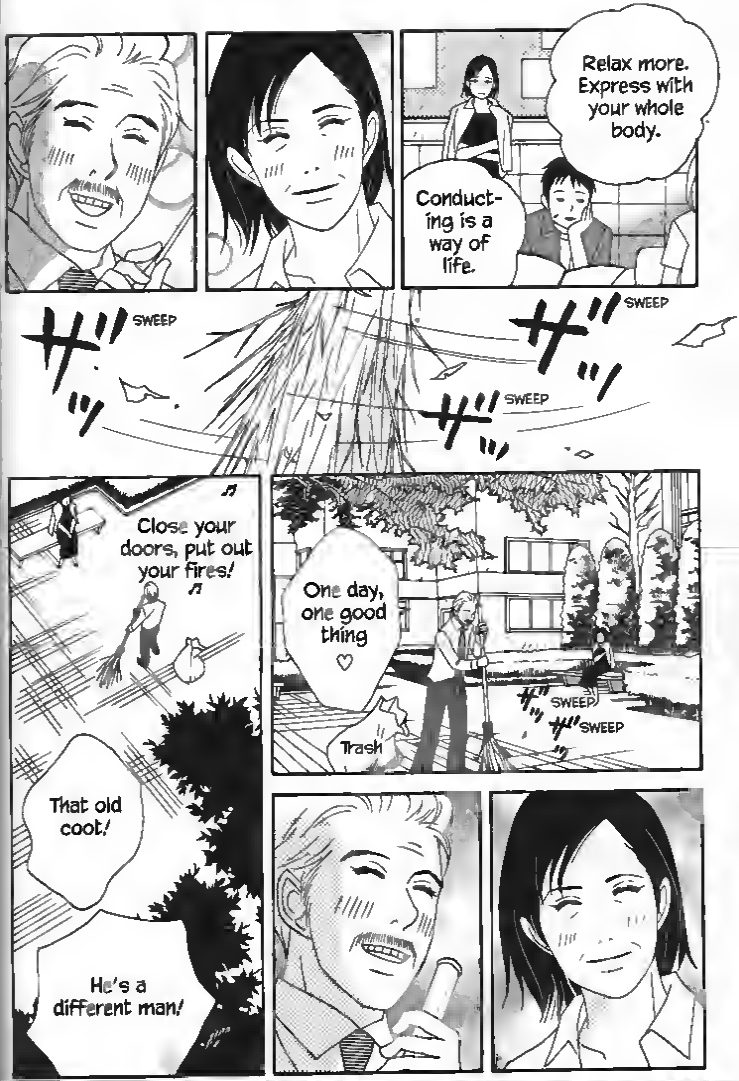
You should study this piece more!
Ah...
Don't insult Brahms!
Why is he looking at me like that!?
And Chiaki...
I was tired yesterday. I don't remember how I conducted this part...
Then we're going to play the 2nd movement one more time, from the top!
Come on, Chiaki! Let's begin!
What's gotten into him all of a sudden!?
He used to only say "Let's have a gokon."

CLAP
パチ
CLAP
パチ
CLAP
パチ
はぁ…
PHEW
OK!

When I hear a wonderful orchestra performance...
it makes me come back to life. ♡
パチ パチ パチ
Bravo!
That was very good!
Mina!
Huh.
Mina!!
KYHA
It's been a long time, Franz!
It's so good to see you again!

Has it really been 45 years?
You became a great conductor...
Mina...
You're just as beautiful as you always were...
That's the director?
How'd she become pretty!?
Did she lose weight because she was ill!?
Matsumi-chan
I'm so surprised. In my letter I said that I wanted you to introduce me to a great conductor...
But I didn't expect you to come in person.
You're a world-famous conductor now.
Everything I am is because of you.
I'd do anything!
So will you marry me? ♡

↑ Conducting class


Relax more. Express with your whole body.
Conduct-ing is a way of life.
SWEEP
SWEEP
SWEEP
Close your doors, put out your fires!
One day, one good thing
Trash
SWEEP
SWEEP
That old coot!
He's a different man!

Maybe he's planning on going back to Germany as soon as he seduces her!?
He's just using us!
BAM
As soon as the director came back, he started instructing more seriously in class!
HN
That's sweet.
His love for her hasn't gone away even after 45 years ♡
Do you think she's going to break his heart?
Nice! ♡
NO NO NO
He's not sexually harassing anyone...
And he's instructing the S orchestra more seriously.
Now, now, calm down.
But the director is married, right?
No. I heard she got divorced a long time ago (from my dad)
Hmmm ♡ Then there are no obstacles for them.
Good luck, Milch! ♡

I'm going to conduct the S orchestra again for awhile.
That is your new project!
Please practice this song on the piano by yourself.
What's this....?
Eh?
RACHMAN-INOFF PIANO CONCERTO NO. 2
RACHMA
Piano Concerto No.2 in C minor, Op 18
I have to play this difficult piece!?
No way...
Why do I have to play the piano?
GRUMBLE
ﾅﾝﾃﾞ

Why is this so odd?
You're a student in the piano course.
Why do I have to play the piano concerto now...?
Don't talk back to your Master!!
ANGRY
But...
Now!
Today I want to play up until the 4th movement.
So does this mean...
I've been replaced as conductor for the S Orchestra?
Chiaki! Go to the practice room now!

He's just trying to show off so she'll see how good he is for his students!
SLAM
RACHMANINOV
Dammit!!
Who cares about the Great Master!!

Eh!?
Chiaki?
Wo(ü)ber bist du böse? [Why are you so mad?]
He created S Orche
And then he let me conduct
You are
He was just playing around until he saw his woman!
Stresemann's pupil
"Chiaki," right?
Milch's manager Elise
Do you want some jerky?
I don't get it!!

CLAP
パチ
Bravo!
It was a very different Chopin, but it was still good.
It sounded fun.
HE HE HE うきゃ
EH HEH HEH ヘヘヘー
Really!?
What are your plans for the future, Nodame-chan?
Oh--
To teach at a preschool!
It's been my dream for a long time. ♡
My hope is...
Uhh.. Is this a quiz?
It's not a quiz...
What do you hope for?
But lately...
I also want to marry Chiaki-sempai. ♡

So I want to be Chiaki-sempai's wife and work at a preschool. That's my big dream. ♡
I said it!!
GYHRHRO//
I'm embarrassed//
REALIZATION
Really...
Chiaki, huh...?
But Nodame-chan...
You can't be with Chiaki the way you are now.
Huh...?
You can't be with Chiaki.

Franz had played piano when he was a student.
BEEF STEAK JERKY
HOT PEPPER
His family was rich.
And he had a brother that was an excellent piano player.
So he didn't have confidence and wasn't interested in the piano.
He started getting interested in girls
AHHHHHH
But he skipped class a lot.
The way he behaved when he was a student was irresponsible.
I don't understand what's going on now...
You have great talent.
But one day...
Maybe... conducting!
You should be a conductor.

But she was already known as a talented pianist.
And she was also beautiful and starting to become famous.
Franz immediately fell in love with her.
That was Minako Momodaira who said that. She was called "Madonna," and at the time was the top piano player at the college.
She was beginning to get out of his reach and he wanted to keep up with her.
music and conducting.
Franz began studying harder...
But then Minako came down with a disease in her fingers.
And she quit playing piano and returned to Japan.
CONGRATULATIONS
She married a writer she had just met.
That's what I learned.

They are just friends, as before.
Then... their relation is...
I thought it would sell well if his biography were published.
After he died.
No. I researched it.
Did you hear that story from the Great Master?
I don't think so.
But isn't the Great Master still in love with her...?
Because he's teaching!
Huh!?
As an instructor.
Now I think she asked him to come. So he came...
I also thought so at first, but...
Don't you think he came to see her?
Well then why did he come to Japan now?
That's not it.
I believe...
Baby
Baby...?

And you...
Are the pupil he's here to instruct, right?
EH...
I can't believe he actually took on a pupil.
Even when others pleaded with him he never took one before.
Damn you...
If you aren't serious, give Franz back to me!
You're obstructing our business!

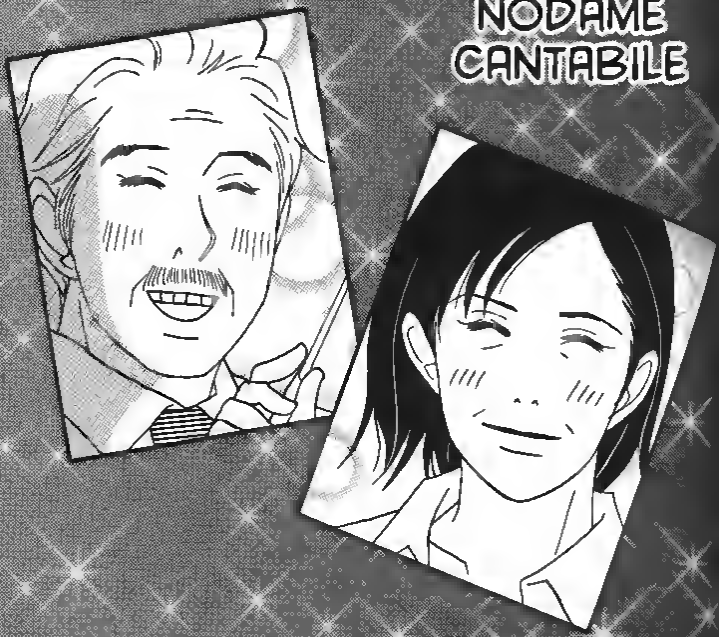
So what do you think of our school?
Don't you find it interesting?
This year, there are a lot of gifted students. That's very rare.
Is that why you asked me to come?
I really didn't think you would.
But things have turned out better now.
That student... You already found him...
I was not going to stay so long, but now I feel I cannot return to Germany yet.

Actually, there is another one
I also must take care of.
He can't leave Japan.
Can't you do anything else for him?
Chiaki-sempai!
Eh?
I feel like I see myself in her when I was young.
She reminds me of the pain I used to feel
When I was her age.

Hey! What are you doing?
Leave me alone!
Huh?
SNFL
SNFL
SLIDE
I hope good things happen for them...
We'll be together forever... ♡
SNFL
SNFL

Why don't we all go to the plateau for summer vacation?
So then...

Why the plateau?
There's a summer music festival in Nagano.
I'll be conducting for one performance, then instructing for an open seminar.
You have to do it!!
For Elise...
The seminar is a good place for you to learn. So please join us... and bring your bathing suits. ♡
No swimming suits!
Huh!?
Seminar!?
The hot summer is coming soon.


NODAME
CANTABILE

Lesson 21

NODAME CANTABILE

Summer Time
NAGANO
NIIGATA
Puri puri puririn
and the livin' is easy
Purigorota
By the way~ Whatchu say...?

You're all singing a different song!!
Shut up!!
♫ Fish are jumpin'
Ugh...
A magical fairy on a little planet...
♫ the cotton is...
♫ I'm waiting for...
All 4 of us had to join the Nagano Music Festival by order of Stresemann.
We'll meet you in Nagano!
I should've taken a train!
Summer vacation...
I was going to take a quiet ride by myself on the Shinkansen (bullet train).
Let's go together, best friend! ♡

Give me one too.
Can I have another rice ball!?
I'm disappointed that I even have to spend my summer vacation with them...
Can I have a fish egg one? ♡
POTATO
Nodame, you can't have any more!
NNNNNN
Eh..
We're already there?
Chiaki-sempai, we're here!
Wake up, please!
Sempai!

Huh...?
CRSH
The ocean!?
Where are we...?
Uh...?

This is the beach on the Japan seaside.
Niigata!?
HUH
This is Niigata!
A HA HA
She already has her swimming suit on.
Hey!
Why is there a beach in Nagano...!?
We drove through the Kanetsu Tunnel!?
Wa ha ha!
Are you surprised, Chiaki?
Sempai, put your swimming trunks on too!
Let's go in the water! ♡
We'll be OK as long as we get to Nagano by tonight.
Doesn't the beach feel great!?
We're on summer vacation! ♡

No way!!
Look.
Then, you can wear my extra pair
You brought your swimming trunks, didn't you?
No, I didn't!!
I hate the ocean!
If you guys want to, go ahead without me!!
But...
I shouldn't tell them.
You guys...
You don't know that I hate airplanes and ships?
Is that so, Chiaki-sama?
Huh? You hate the ocean?
Why? It's a lot of fun!

If they know my weakness, I'll never know what they are going to do to me.
Sun-burn...
I don't want to get sunburned.
Eh? Sun-burned?
It's my skin... I'm not supposed to be in the ultraviolet rays for very long because I'm too sensitive.
Doctor's orders.
I didn't know that, Chiaki...
Doctor's orders.
That's news to me...
Chiaki-sama. Your skin is delicate like mine.
Hmm...
So you guys go ahead, and don't worry about me!
I'll find a cafe around here to wait in.
OK, then we'll come find you later.
We're going to swim for awhile ♡
Watch how beautifully I swim! ♡

How'd I end up like this...?
WOW!
わーい
YEAH!
WEEE
KYHA
That disturbing memory haunts me.
Chiaki was 5 years old.
The ocean...
I want to try to get a tan this year.
No!
You're not going to swim?
Huh... Mine-kun.

My goal is to get a light tan and look healthy and macho.
FU FU RU
RUB
RUB
I notice right now that your skin is glaring white.
Eh!
You look like a white asparagus that grew under-ground!
Oh, and your lips are all pink...
I never real-ized...
You really look like a music student!
No wonder you want to look "healthy and macho."
Huh.
Leave me alone!!
WHAA
KYA-
SPLSH
SPLSH
SPLSH

You idiot!
Gyabo...
I didn't realize I had swum so far...
SWSH SWSH SWSH
Hey!
Why are we going out so far!?
You're gonna be all right!
HA HA HA
I'm scared! Take me back! Take me back!
KYA
GRAB
GASP
GASP
WAAA!
Look!
SHLOOP
I...
want to swim with Sempai, too...
WHA HA HA
KYA
You... idiot!
A HA HA HA HA HA HA

SWSH SWSH SWSH
バッシャバッシャ
WOW
ワオー
KYA
キャー
I'll kill you!
ZZZZZZZ
じりじり
ROASTING
He was so excited he couldn't sleep last night
FSHHHHHH
サラ
FSHHHHHH
サラ
FSHHHHHH
サラ

THE SEA HOUSE
The smell of the sea
THE SEA HOUSE
GRILLED SHELLS BAKED SQUID
HEE
The sound of the waves...
FSHHHHHH
サラ
サラ
FSHHHHHH
サラ…
FSHHHHHH
HEY!
No matter what anyone says...
CRSH
No... This is an old temple in the Nagano valley...
THUTHUM
ドキドキ
THUTHUM
ドキドキ
Heartbeat is 150 bpm.
Chiaki-sempai!!

Clear Mind
Hm? Why are you meditating?
Chiaki-sama, did you have anything to eat yet?
I'll go order some rice balls and curry. ♡
I found you!
Chiaki-sama ♡
キャー KYA
Ah. I'm hungry!
Ah! Can you get me udon noodles?
Don't look.
Chiaki-sempai, why don't you go play in the water a little bit?
I can't enjoy it if you're not there. ♡
Devil
Do you think Ryu-chan is still sleeping?
あはは AHAHA
He'll roast to death!
Don't listen.

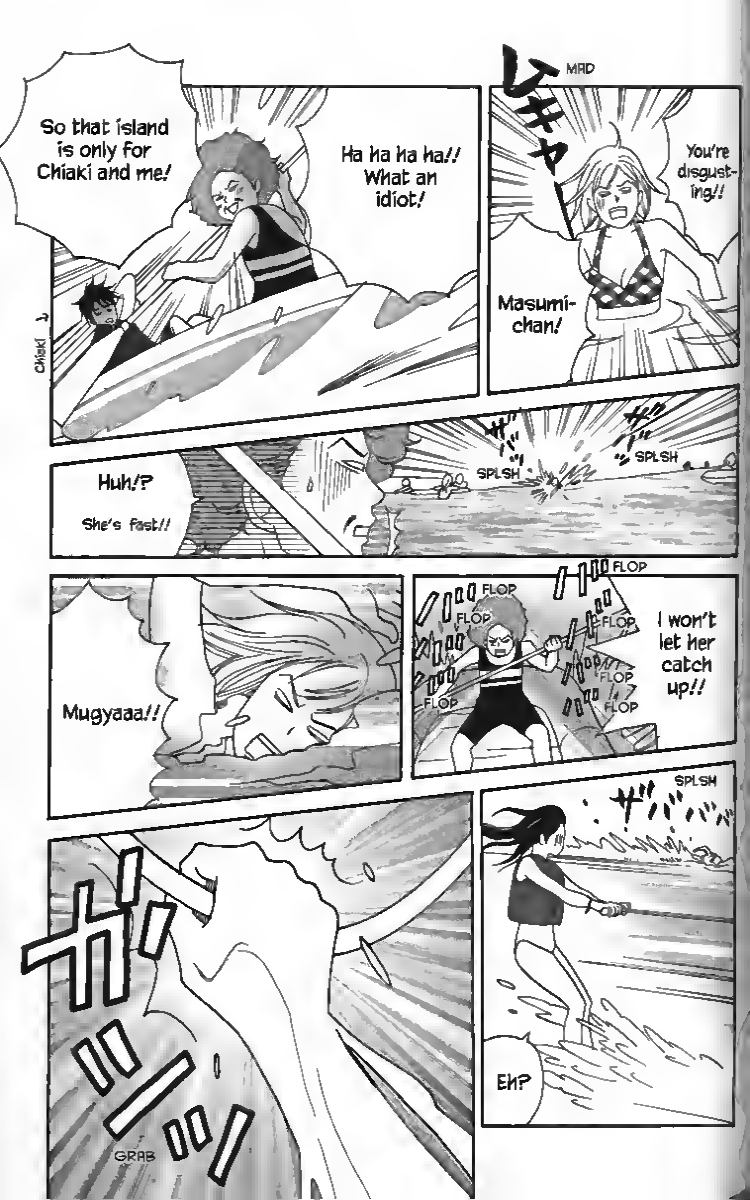
You can wear Mine-kun's other bathing suit!
Yeah, wear 'em! ♡
I'm not going to wear those!!
GYHRR!
She's right.
Chiaki-sama, why don't you put some sunscreen on and play in the water for a little while?
Then Sempai...
Do you want to rent a boat
And go out and look at that little island?
HEE
Go to the island on a boat!?

You don't have to wear a bathing suit if you stay in the boat!
PLEASE
No! You're going too, Sempai ♡
But I'll be disappointed
No! No thanks!
That sounds like a good idea. ♡
You two go without me!
NERVOUS
What am I going to do if the boat tips over!!?
I don't want to get wet
You can't swim?
Sempai... Do you mean...

No... That's not it!
I mean...
I just can't be out in the ultraviolet rays...
Really? Chiaki-sama!
You can't swim!?
Dammit!!
EH!
So you'll be OK!!
WHAA!
THE SEA
HOUSE
The most protective hat!!
MASUMI'S
DONK
WHITE SKIN
SPF100
PA++++
The strongest sun screen lotion!
IMPRESSIVE
RENTAL BOAT 02

WHOOSH
A big wave is coming!
Ah! Wait!
CRASH
Please get in, ♡ Chiaki-sama.
HEEE!
RENTAL BOAT 02
What are you looking at?
OK, let's go!
RENTAL BOAT 02
Who's going to row?
Maybe he really can't swim...
What is he doing?
What are you doing, Chiaki-sempai?
WASHHH

Nodame! I'm gonna row the boat. You push it into the water.
OK.
SHAKE SHAKE
Let's go!
Mush!!
SLAP SLAP SLAP
HEE!
FLOP
FLOP
FLOP
Ah!?
Masumi-chan!


So that island is only for Chiaki and me!
Ha ha ha ha!! What an idiot!
Chiaki ♪
MAD
You're disgusting!!
Masumi-chan!
SPLSH
SPLSH
Huh!?
She's fast!!
FLOP
I won't let her catch up!!
Mugyaaa!!
SPLSH
Eh?
GRAB

ANGRY
Nodame's coming too!
No! Go back! Go back!!
KYHAR!
You don't have to come!!
No way!
KYAA!
Blecch!
A sea monster!?
SPLASHHH
Back off and give me a chance!
You're always trying to be with Chiaki-sama!
Stop that...
You're disgusting!!
HEE!
You're disgusting too!!
SPLASH
Please...
Ah...
The sun...

BASHOOM
CAP. SIZED
GASP
ぶはーっ
Gyabon!!
SPLASH
SPLASH
SPLASH
あっぷ
GASP
あっぷ
GASP
SPLASH
Maybe he's drowning...
What's Chiaki-sempai doing...?
GLUG
ゴボ
GLUG
ゴボ
He really can't swim!?

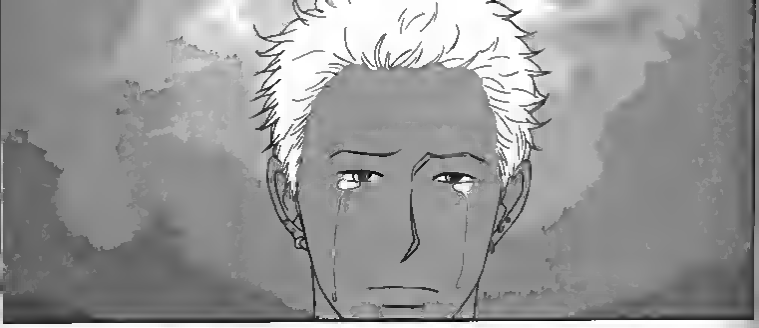
Chiaki-sempai!
Nodame ♡
Chiaki-sama!
Masumi ♡
Chiaki-sama!
Chiaki-sempai!
Over here!!
Chiaki-sama!

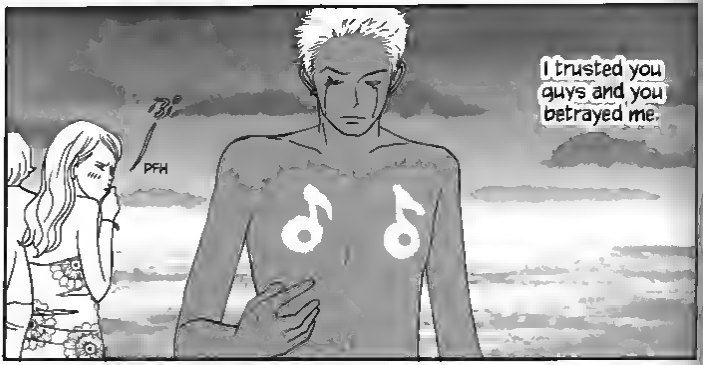
HEE
Where's Chiaki-sempai...!?
Where is he?
Chiaki-sama?
He's gone!
GASP
GASP
SPLOOSH
Kyaa!
Eh!?
No way!
Hey, were you drowning!?
Kyhaa
PANT
PANT
COUGHHH
COUGHHH
Help me...
COUGHHH
They're gonna kill me.

HEE
Oh!
You're a babe. ♡
EH!
You're kidding!
KYAA
Are you serious!?
Hey everyone! I saved this guy from drowning!!
He's cute. ♡
Oh no!!
Chiaki-sempai!
Those girls are going to steal Chiaki-sama away!!
SPLASH SPLASH SPLASH
Yeah!
We're saving his life!
They're fast!
OK! OK! ♡
Eh!? You want us to take you to the shore?
Are we saving his life!?

I have to get away from here!! As soon as possible!
BYE BYE
KYA
Thank you! I'll never forget you guys!
That's a lie.
From the sea
and them!!
Shoot!!
Mine has the key...!
Now what'll I do!? All my stuff is in the car!
WHACK

Wow, I had a great time!
AHAHA
We better get home, it'll be dark soon.
NAGANO 500
NI 01-08
Yeah. You just got a driver's license.
It's not safe.
Are you the girls that just saved me!?
It's a Nagano license plate!!
Hey, you guys...
CRASHHHH
No... I...
Are you trying to pick us up? We're leaving now
Who are you?
Wrong girls




I trusted you guys and you betrayed me.
PFH

I'll punish you by leaving you here!

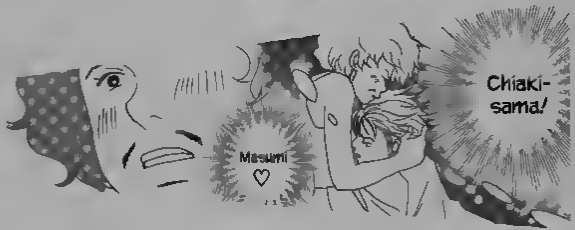
ズォォ
SKREEECH

I'll never forgive you guys.

WHASHHH
No way!
What are we going to do...
I can't change my clothes.
The first time that Chiaki Nodame, Mine and Masumi went on a vacation together...
SAYONARA IDIOTS
MINE
Can we hitchhike in our bathing suits?

No way! Are you serious!?
A ha ha ha!!
Over the passenger limit
KYAA
Huh!? We're still in Niigata.
Why are you going to Nagano, Shin-chan?
Oh! Shin-chan, your hand is touching my hip!
Perve!
KYAA
KYAA
Huh? A music festival?
What's that?
...and nobody enjoyed it.

NODAME CANTABILE



Lesson 22

Nina Lutz, pianist, has produced this festival in Nagano every year since 1997.

The purpose of this festival is to inspire young musicians. Many famous artists are invited to perform and give master classes to the winners of music competitions that were held throughout Japan.

NINA LUTZ MUSIC FESTIVAL

It lasts for 8 days.

Opening this year's concert are young musicians from Nagano.

And the following day,
master classes begin with the famous musicians.
Your performance was very good!
OK! That's it for today.
OK... How about you next?
Yes, sir...!
SLIDE
Play it from the same place.
This is great...

I'm taking a lesson from Kiyo Buskovich.
PIANO MASTER CLASS
Instructor: Nina Lutz
Everyone, this song has an irregular rhythm.
It's brisk and spirited...
NOT PAYING ATTENTION
80
Chiaki-sempai...
Isn't here...

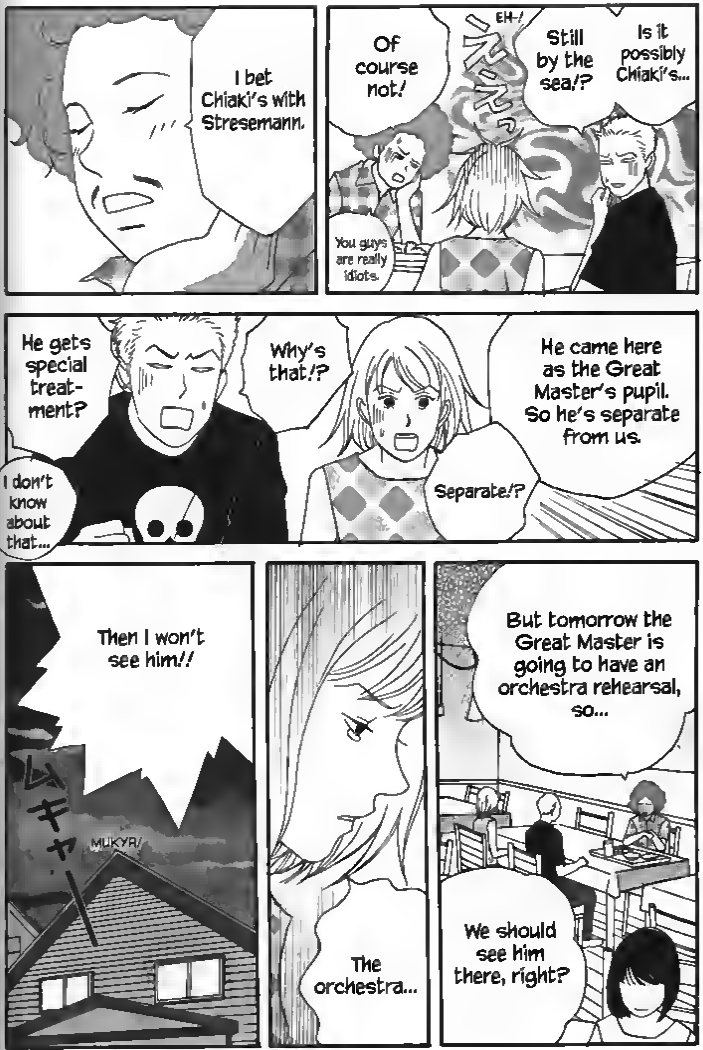
Play? What do you want me to play?
Would you play for me, please?
EH—/
Huh?
Me?
OK, you're next./
Yes, you.
Just play.
What is it./?
I have to play this?
AH—
Not good at sight reading
SUITE
A suite.../?

Didn't you study for this!?
Even if you didn't, you've already heard three other people play it!
The Bártok suite!
I notified everyone that this would be our subject piece to learn.
You.... You didn't practice this at home!?
Huh?
Rina not good at English
You don't want to learn!?
No!?
HEE
Y... Yes!?
Weren't you listening?
GYABO!
GET OUT!!

Phew...
I don't care about my dad!!
Do you miss your dad?
You're persistent!
I just don't have an appetite.
This is a buffet. It doesn't matter how long you sit there, your dad's not gonna bring your food to you.
What's wrong, Ryu-chan?
You know Nakamura who went to study in Vienna, right?
There are lots of players just as good as him.
They're all great players.
SHIVER SHIVER
Huh?
Everybody plays better than I do...
Lost in confidence

They're all students who were chosen from yearly auditions.
Don't you know anything about this festival!?
How stupid are you!?
They have to be great players!
I'm the luckiest one. ♡
We got in by Stresemann's recommendation.
Kya
But we didn't audition!
Well, I do always try my best!
I'm glad I practiced so hard before coming here. ♡
← He didn't practice at all
KYHAA!
Instructor Albert praised me and said that I was "wonderful" in class today!
That's what that famous timpanist said. ♡
Eh? You're kidding.

Where can he be?
I don't care about that. Chiaki-sempai...
Where!?
You sure have a poor attitude all of a sudden!
Huh...
You couldn't!?
I looked for him in every cottage but I couldn't find him.
I haven't seen him since I got to Nagano.
Uh...


I bet Chiaki's with Stresemann.
Of course not!
EH-/
Still by the sea!?
Is it possibly Chiaki's...
You guys are really idiots.
He gets special treatment?
Why's that!?
He came here as the Great Master's pupil. So he's separate from us.
I don't know about that...
Separate!?
Then I won't see him!!
MUKYA!/
But tomorrow the Great Master is going to have an orchestra rehearsal, so...
The orchestra...
We should see him there, right?

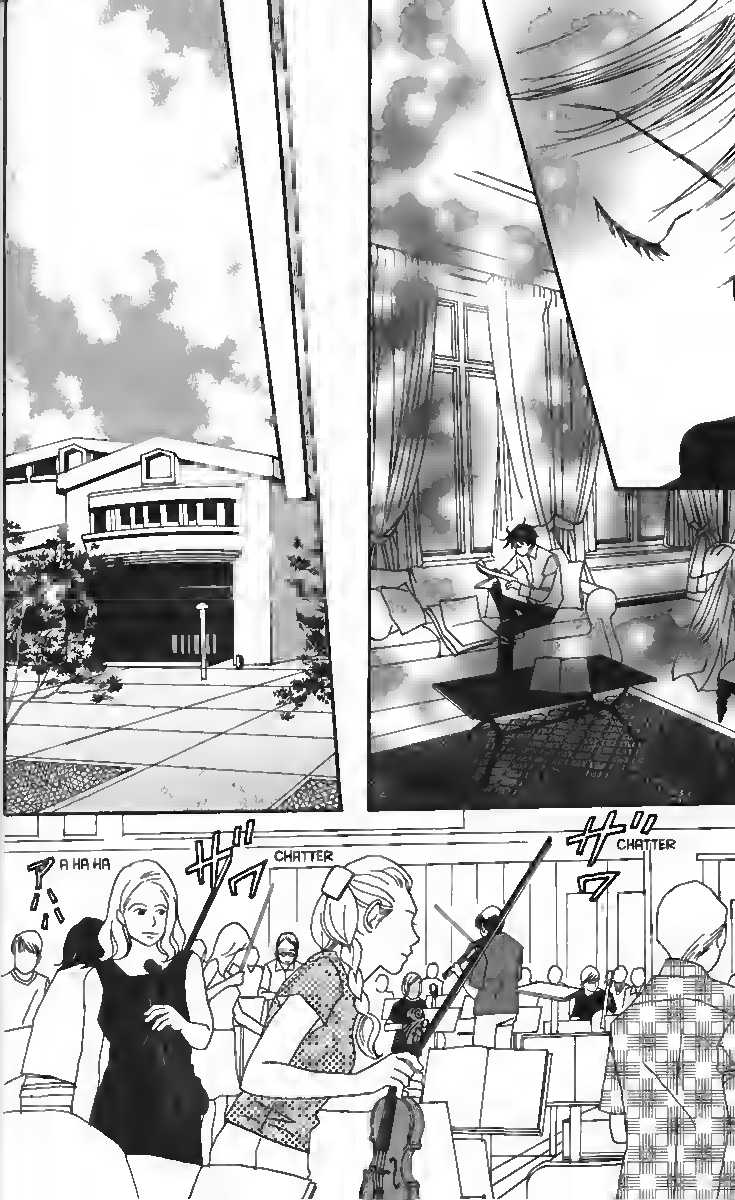
Oshiuri Newspaper Chairman Horigane Takeshi's Country Retreat
Oh!
Cellist M Barkoff
Chiaki!!
It's a party for the company chairmen that sponsored the event.
It's great.
There are many important musicians here...

Here!
スイ
FLOP
This is Stresemann's schedule starting from tomorrow!
UH
Why are you mingling at this party?
Elise...
Who do you think you are!?
Wait... wait a minute!
Why do I have to be his manager!? That's your job!!
FLP FLP FLP
And this is his instruction manual.
His erotic countermeasure book... And...
Why...
Hey! Chiaki!!
CLOP
カツーン
CLOP
カツーン
Starting today I'm on vacation!
See you!

Stresemann instruction manual #15
<Don't feed him carrots>
BONK
I don't want carrots!
BONK
GRAB
GRAB
I'm hungry!
Can you get me something to eat!?
Here it comes...
Erotic countermeasure Chapter 8 <Click him with erotic distraction>
Ah!
Well, it's time to play yakyuken...
GRAB
There's a beautiful girl over here!
Why are they serving sake...?
Another one.
Chiaki! More sake!
Wasn't I supposed to come here as a pupil!?
Your hotel is right here!
I'm going to throw up...
Don't do it on me!!
Chiaki ~~~!
I don't feel good...

What's with this room!?
FLOP
トサッ
ZZZZZZZ
PHEW...
はあ

Dvořak Symphony #5.?
DVOŘÁK SYMPHONIE 5
Sheet music...
Is this what the students are supposed to play at the festival...?
What a maniac...


A HA HA
CHATTER
CHATTER

Dvořák Symphony #5!?
This isn't a very well-known piece...
I've never heard of it.
He didn't practice.
GET TH
BLUE
You practiced, didn't you?
Of course you did.
?
You've never heard of it...?
T THE
WHAR/
OH/
おっ
STP

WOW...
LOOK, LOOK!
IT'S HIM, IT'S HIM!
It's really Stresemann!
Great!
WOW
Hello boys and girls.
How are...
Ughh!
BLECCHH
DASH

Chiaki-sama...
What's he doing?
GET THE BLUES
MUMBLE
BLECCHH
What happened?
You drank too much...!!
WHISPER
Is he sick?
It's a beautiful
Arggh.
and quiet song.
This piece is "Dvořák's "New World Symphony"
PHEW
I'm OK
Let's begin...
So play it
Like brightness coming out of the sky
Ugh!

They're not blending together yet, but the beginning of this piece is difficult...
They are all so good...
Maybe they practiced hard.
They are great.

It's obvious that someone didn't practice enough.
But...
Quit doing that!
I can't believe it.
The Great Master was hung over!?

Hey...
I'm tired of his joking around.
RRRGH
His conducting was drunk, too.
Lunch break
You're gloomy!
You look so depressed.
↑ He looks like his confidence has been drained.
Sagojo...
HN
You should be depressed.
STP STP
What university are you guys from?
Hey.
He's an awful player.
He can't help it.
I couldn't even concentrate playing next to him.

No. We came here on Stresemann's recommendation.
HO HO HO
ホホホ
Kinda by force.
That's in Tokyo...
Really?
Eh?
We're from Momogaoka.
Did you also have to audition to come here?
Not really ♡ (yes we are).
No!
Then you must be great players.
CHATTER
わい
I envy you guys. It's an honor for the Great Master to single you out.
CHATTER
What year are you?
Are you serious?
WOW
お〜
That's great!
On Stresemann's recommendation!?
Ah...
I understand.
Well, I want to, but there are no openings for timpani.
That's too bad.
Everybody's having a hard time.
Have you found a job yet?
Same as me.
I'm 4th year.
Are you going to play with an orchestra?

Looks like a sausage
THAT'S AMAZING!
スゲー
WOW!
おおーっ
HA HA HA
OH-!
わー
I passed the entrance exam for the Dallas Orchestra in the US.
I'm waiting for an opening in the M Orchestra, as a fill-in...
It's hard.
PHEW
はー
It's hard to find an opening for flute too.
I'm going to study abroad.
But it's impossible.
Even all these great players are finding it hard to get into an orchestra!!
I always believed that being a "professional musician" would come naturally, until now...
I wonder if I should try some overseas orchestras.
AHAHA
GOOD FOR YOU.
ええ
Man...
ET THE BLUES

うわ～ん
WAHHHH
I finally found you!!
Sempai!
She found me.
She's gonna waste my lunch break...
BOKYUUU
ぼきゅ～
Withdrawal symptoms
Where have you been!?
Nodame missed you to death!!
Settle down...
How was your piano playing?
What am I to you!?
Never mind... Let me touch you first before we talk...
RUB
しゅわ～

You had a master class this morning, right!? How was it?
What do you mean by "Huh?"!?
Huh?
Why are you avoiding my question?
Nodame wants to go home now...
What!?
Today... I didn't go to the class
And I can't be with you...
Yesterday I got kicked out.
And that instructor is scary.

Then just go home!
You're scared of the teacher...?
Really...
Are you sure?
You can't?
My pupil...
But... they can't play without you conducting.
Pu?
I can't...
えっ EH?
I have a pupil that can fill in...
Your pupil?
Do you think we should cancel this afternoon's rehearsal?
We just don't have much time left.
Pu...

Huh!?
Oh---!
He's your pupil!!
MEDICINE
Then that's good!!
Chiaki....
you've studied it, right?
You old man----!
You...
You can do it, right?
No...
no way!
I can't fill in for him!
HA HA HA
You'll be OK. It's only one afternoon.
It's going to be OK as long as you just hold them together.

Lesson 23

May I have your attention?
This is Maestro Stresemann's pupil, Chiaki Shinichi-kun.
Is he sure he wants me to do this...?
He's going to fill in this afternoon as conductor for the Maestro.
The Great Master is too sick to come!?
He's hung over, right?
CHATTER
CHATTER
EH—!

Isn't that the guy who was in charge of his vomit?
CHATTER
His pupil!?
I'm impressed that he's the Great Master's pupil.
CHATTER
CHATTER
I'm Chiaki.
It's nice to meet you.
Chiaki...
Maybe he's here from overseas?
Is he a student in Japan?
*Grandioso = Broad and noble
Put bigger accents in the grandioso*...
I don't think you understand a lot of the parts as Stresemann instructed. So we'll begin from the 1st movement and practice letter A.
OK... What you just played...
RUSTLE
A ha ha

Hey, who is he?
That guy...

*Crescendo = Increase in volume
His pupil!?
That's him?
That's not Stresemann!
The Great Master is sick. So his pupil is conducting instead of him.
I don't know. I've never seen him before.
Is he a student!?
He's Japanese, right?
Do a bigger crescendo* when your bowing.
From B
The 2nd theme...
Hurry! Take his picture!
Stresemann has a Japanese pupil? This is news!
What are you smile!?
Take one!

Stop!
Don't slow down.
Cellos...
Cantabile*...
*Cantabile = In a lyrical style **piano = Soft
Trumpets, play a little more clearly.
You haven't played this triplet correctly yet.
Watch your pitch on this part.
Play tighter on the accents.
Tarara-rara, tarara-rara. It sounds like a drunken man.
Play more piano** on the harmony part.
あはは
AHAHA
How could you call your Great Master a drunken man!?
Like a drunken man..
Listen to the trumpets more carefully.

She is really good...
Concert master

I'm enjoying this.

He's far away...
CLICLICK
カシャ
CLICLICK
カシャ
Who is he...?
GET THE BLUES ★
"PWING"
アァン

But I feel he is so far away...
Chiaki is always right in front of me...
Geez...
Hey! Turn the music sheet!
You're worth-less!!
Hey, Ryu-chan!

You should stop playing now. You're gonna get yelled at!
This piece...
Chiaki completely understood it.
Just a little more...
.....
He is a great musician.
He studied hard to get where he is!
If Stresemann didn't get sick, Chiaki wouldn't have had a chance to conduct.

Hm?
I'll go get him some juice!
I'm glad ♡ that Ryu-chan cheered up.
But he's noisy.
STP
STP
STP
Ki---
Ki---
No- dummy!? (Nodame)

WAAAH!
Mugya!
SUITE
TAP
TAP
Forte!
A new
episode
begins!

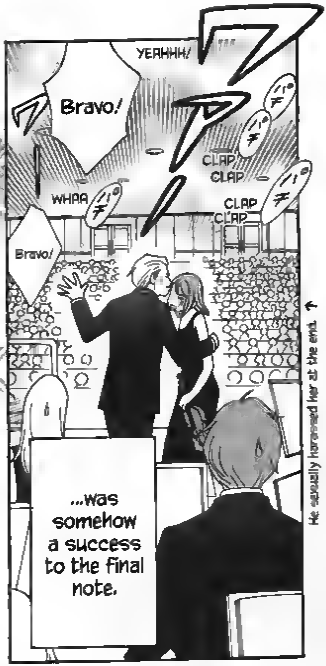
Like your hangover has gone away!
HUH?
A HA HA
Play more beautifully on this part~~~~~
Let's play from D one more time.
SPARKLY
SPARKLY

.....
Who is Sagojo!!?
Sagojo....
Looks just like him
Cut it out, monkey!!
HN

Yes.
The Maestro is really back.
Only he could have conducted like that.
Excellent.
Stresemann's pupil could have done it too.
You too...
I'd like to see you conduct your own orchestra someday.
Eh...
HA HA HA
That's what surprised me the most.

For sure—
Some-
day...
Thank you
very much.
The final
day of the
music
festival.
Stresemann
conducting,
Nina Lutz,
performing
with the special
orchestra...

WHAA


YEAHHH!
Bravo!
CLAP CLAP
WHAA
CLAP CLAP
Bravo!
...was somehow a success to the final note.
He actually hammered her at the end.

Sponsored by (KK) Oshiuri Newspaper
The 6th Nina Lutz Music Festival
Farewell Party
Classic Life
WHAA
A HA HA

I'll never forget you! Thank you, Sagojo...
I'm not Sagojo!!
I've had enough!!
Monkey!!

Everything here upset me...
But this festival brought me to my senses.

HA HA HA
CHATTER CHATTER
Did you find that boy!?
Hey!
That boy is pianist Chiaki Masayuki's son.
What should I do!?
SHAKE
But I still have a lot of pictures to take.
And Kawano-san, you have to interview Nina!
No, not yet...
Are you really trying to find him!?
This party is going to be over soon!!
Another good-looking guy... There she goes again...
This is big!
He's like a prince!!
He's Chiaki Masayuki's son, Stresemann's pupil, and a young handsome man!!
うお WHOA

Keiko Kawano, a journalist for "Classic Life" music magazine

Chiaki-sama
SURPRISE
Masumi!
One more time...
Where is Nodame?
Huh—?
Nodame... I looked for her but I couldn't find her.
That's not possible.
"Dishevelled"!?
There's a lot of food in here.
Where is she...
Call me "Masumi"... ♡
"Dishevelled"!?

She's been even *more* strange the last few days.
I know.
That girl...
She's so strange.
She looked like she was possessed by an orangutan...
She was stumbling around...
Like she was in a trance...
Oh, Shinichi.
EHP
Thank you for everything.
Nina!?
Orangutan!?

How was her piano playing?
Do you remember the student "Megumi Noda" from your master class?
Nina...
Noda...?
"Hagya!" "Fugya!" She makes noises like that...
Oh! That girl...
Not even once.../?
She was the worst student I've ever had.
Her piano playing...
Her heart wasn't in it, so I excused her from the class.
She didn't come even once since then.

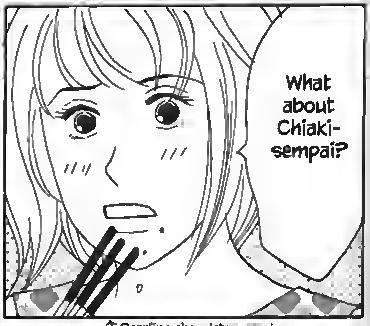
She just doesn't seem to have a passion for music.
I don't really know what to tell you...
You should give up on her.
She's not good?

Did I over-
rate her
playing?

The music festival is already over...
What a keen student!
HA HA HA
Someone is in here illegally...
Huh?
Who's playing piano....?
Thank you very much, Nina-sensei.
See you next year...
Who is that playing!?
Huh? Is that Bártok!?
Hm!
Nina-sensei!?

I never heard anyone play like that before!
WHAM
Who...!?
I think I played right...
I'm hungry..
LIMP
LIMP
Did I do the right thing? Chiaki-sempai...

Orangutan ↑

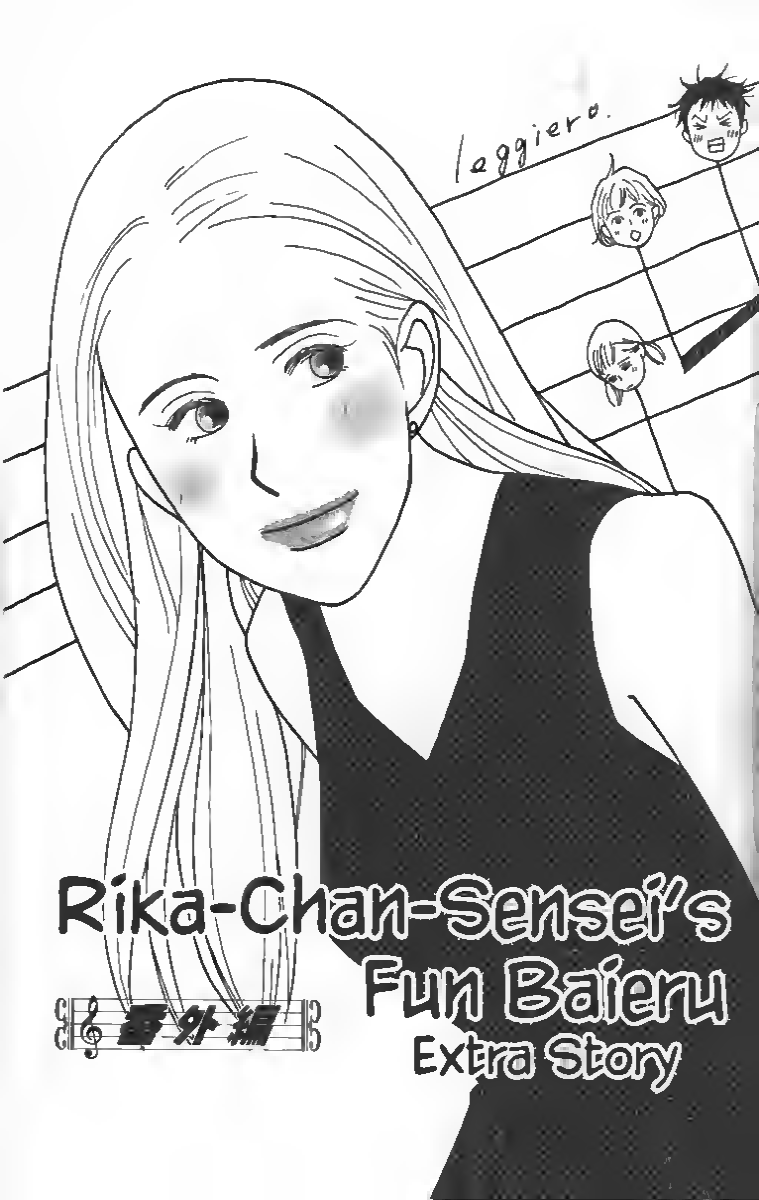


† Scarfing chocolate pretzels

I need

to move on.

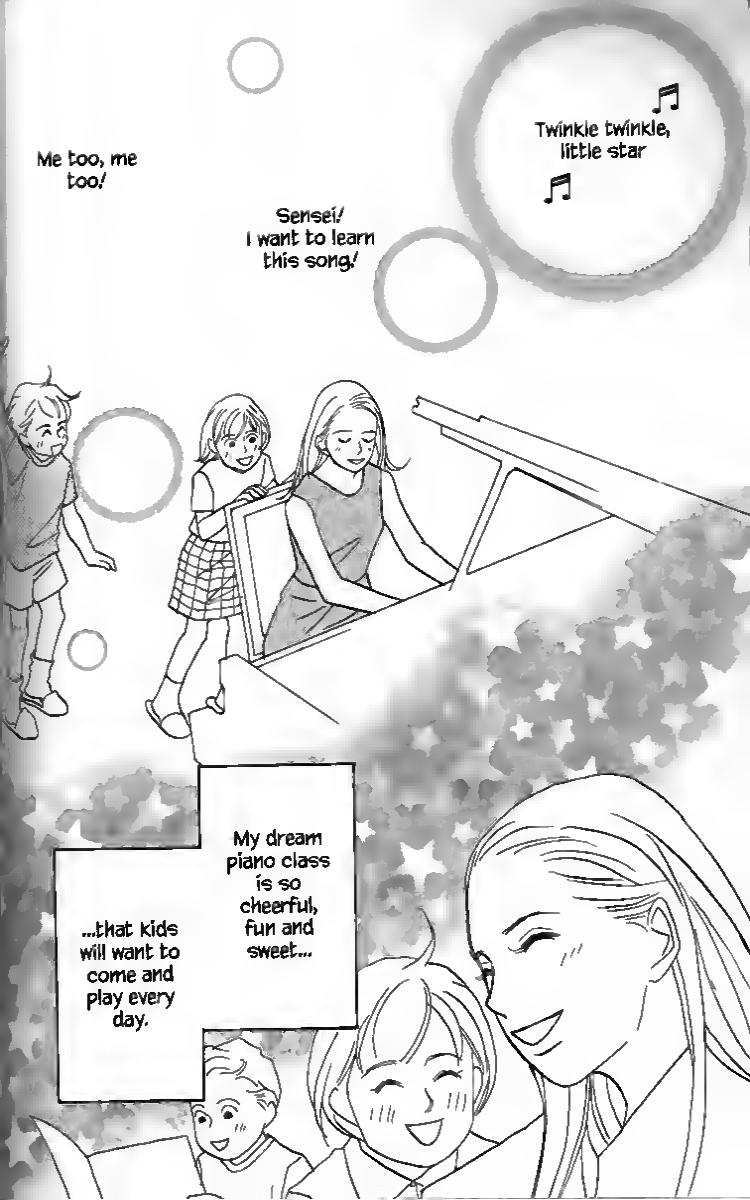
Tage No Kamameshi



Rika-Chan-Sensei's Fun Baieru

番外編

Extra Story

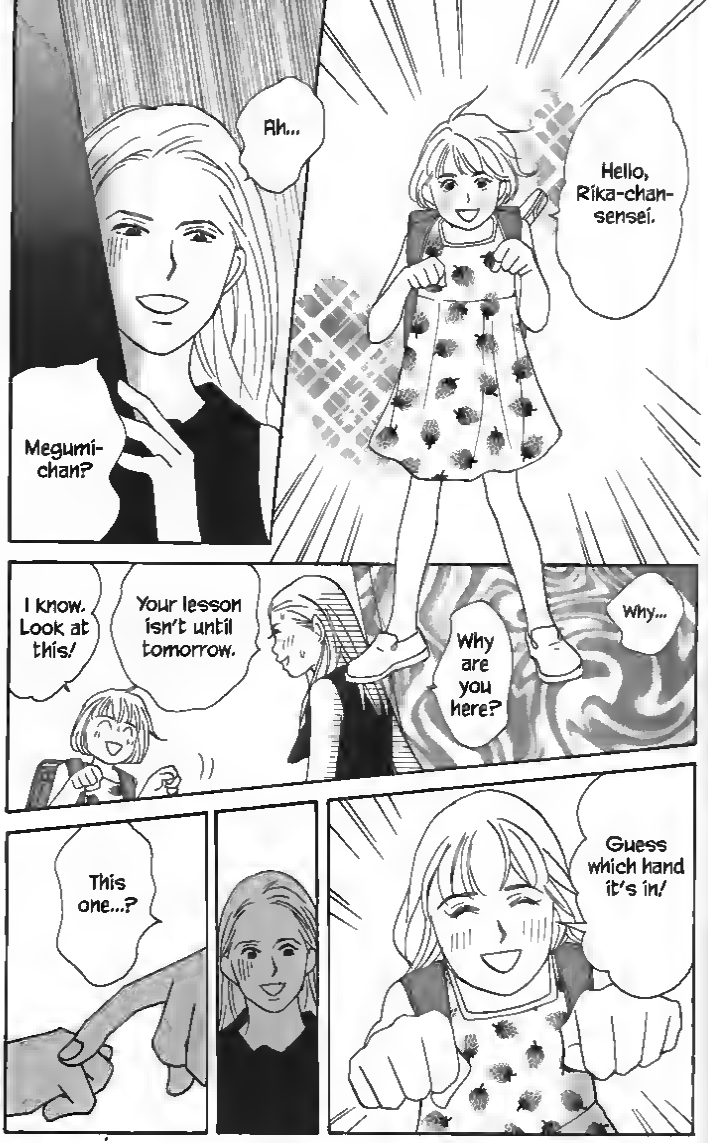

Twinkle twinkle, little star
Me too, me too!
Sensei! I want to learn this song!
My dream piano class is so cheerful, fun and sweet...
...that kids will want to come and play every day.

"Twinkle twinkle, little star"!?
What's that?
This is written by Mozart.
It's a nice song. Let's play it. ♡
Mozart For Kids
Today I'm going to play "Monster God Gaidar"!
BANG BOOM
ばしっ
SLAM
Mozart For Kids
Mozart For Kids

BANG
BOOM
And he makes them up
Monster God Gaidar
Kouta (9 years old) loves animation songs and always plays them.
BOOM
Across the sky
Gaidar flashes by~
BANG
BOOM
Gaidar kick
Can you play "Twinkle Twinkle, Little Star" for just a little bit?
He defends peace in outer space
Kouta-kun... I don't know that song.
TA-RA-RA-RA
RI-RA-RA-RA
チャラリラリラ
ラリーン
Fur Elise
Mai-chan, gimme five!
Why...
Ah!
Time's up.
My lesson is over.

Here, use the 4th finger
Mai-chan, that's the wrong finger.
Use the left hand 3rd finger...
TINK
TINK
TINK
It's all right! Don't worry about your fingering.
Oh... Mai-chan.
Ah! Again!
I want her to try a different song but...
OK then, once more from the top.
Mai-chan (7 years old) has been playing Baieru for 2 months.

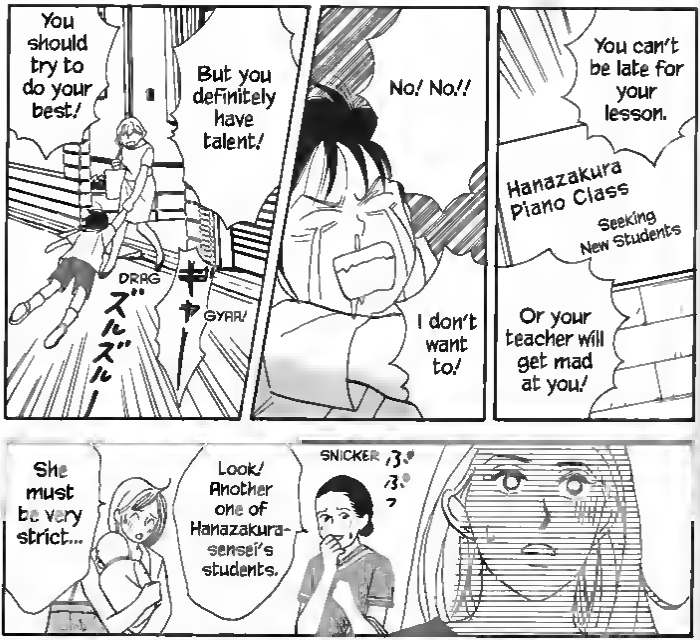
Mai-chan has trouble with rhythm.
Take a one beat rest, then cha cha
CLAP
Mai-chan, listen. Chan-chan, chan-cha-a-n, cha cha
CLAP
CLAP
Mai-chan, I'll be right back!
Ah! OK!
Rika-chan, someone's at the door!
I never could have imagined this...
ピンポーン
DING DONG
DING DONG
What should I do with her?
Coming!
PHEW
Mai-chan breathes a sigh of relief.
GACHA


Ah...
Hello, Rika-chan-sensei.
Megumi-chan?
I know. Look at this!
Your lesson isn't until tomorrow.
Why are you here?
Why...
This one...?
Guess which hand it's in!

No way...
What is this...?
FLOP
コロ
Here, congratulations.
Wow! You're right!
It's a cat's
Dried poop!
Tokyo has a lot of competition for piano classes (I've recently discovered).
It's very hard since I just graduated piano college...
SUZUKI Piano Class Ad
GYHAAA!
ギャー
I started giving piano lessons 1 year ago.

In my class.
I've only got 3 students
These three kids...
Pudding...
Poop
I need to poop!
I want to eat a snack for a prize!
Give me a prize!
I'm hungry!
HA-UN
Can you wait, dad...?
I'm trying to get more students...
Come home...
...to Fukuoka!
You don't have to send me money anymore...
Are you trying to kill yourself, Rikako!?

I'm trying to do my best.
Help me..?
VIDEO RENTAL
Dad, please give me a little more time...
And I can help you get a lot more, and better students here!
You can start a piano class back home.
MONSTER GOD GAIDAR
NEW EPISODE
200 yen for two days and one night.
PLOP
GYARA!
Come on! Takuya!
Stop crying!
WHAA
This is the show Kouta-kun likes.


You should try to do your best!
But you definitely have talent!
DRAG
ズルズル
GYAA!
キャー
No! No!!
I don't want to!
You can't be late for your lesson.
Hanazakura Piano Class
Seeking New Students
Or your teacher will get mad at you!
She must be very strict...
Look! Another one of Hanazakura-sensei's students.
SNICKER
ふふふ
Even if he has talent, he'll end up hating the piano. His talent will be wasted.
That's not a real piano class!
That's sad.
That's why parents are so desperate for her class.
Hanazakura Piano Class
Seeking new students
Free orientation sitters
Please come visit
I heard she was trained by many famous pianists.
But I also heard she fails a lot of students too.

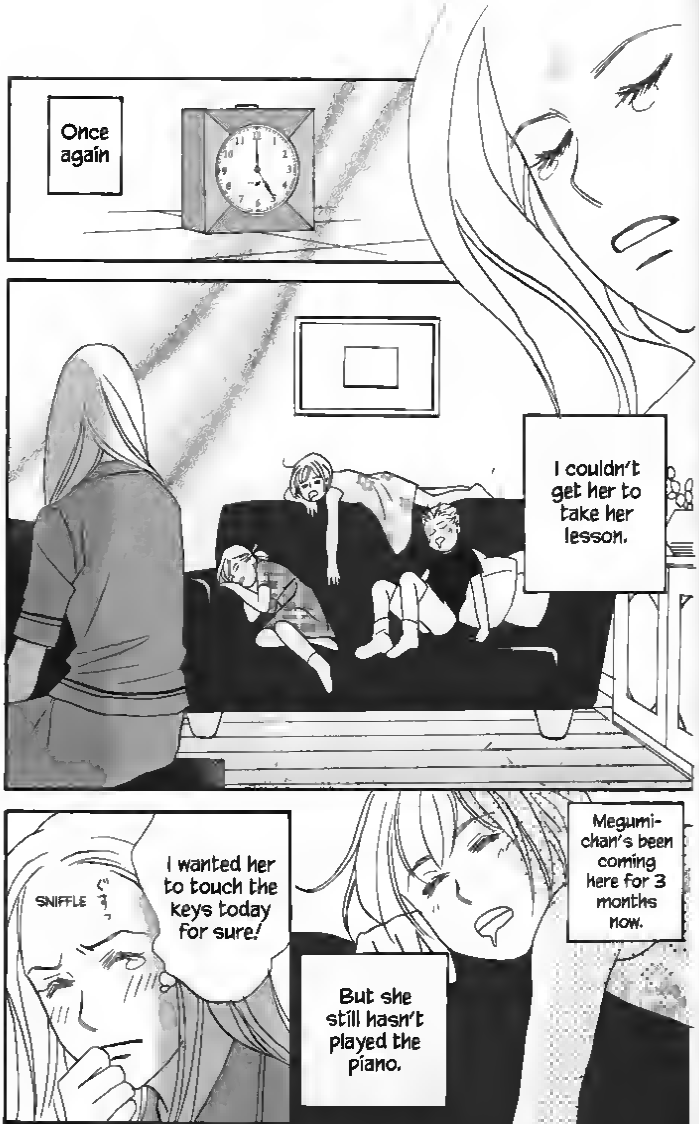
Monster God Gaidar...
I will knock down the evil Baridon soldiers~ And destroy them.
You should enjoy music first!
Suzuki Piano Class
Wow!
Gaidar–
Gaidar–
Yes!!
What do you think? Do you want to try to play it, Kouta-kun?
I wrote out the music for you for Monster God Gaider.♡

Re re mi do sol fa mi
Re mi do~ fa sol!
I think Kouta-kun will take playing more seriously now
You see, any kid will try hard if it's something they're interested in.
OK!
Then let's sing along with the melody first
...along with Kouta-kun's singing?
Mai-chan, can you play these castanets
Do la ti do-
Mai-chan
I hope Mai-chan can learn to feel rhythm more naturally.
CLAP CLAP
Yes, like that.
Good! Very good!

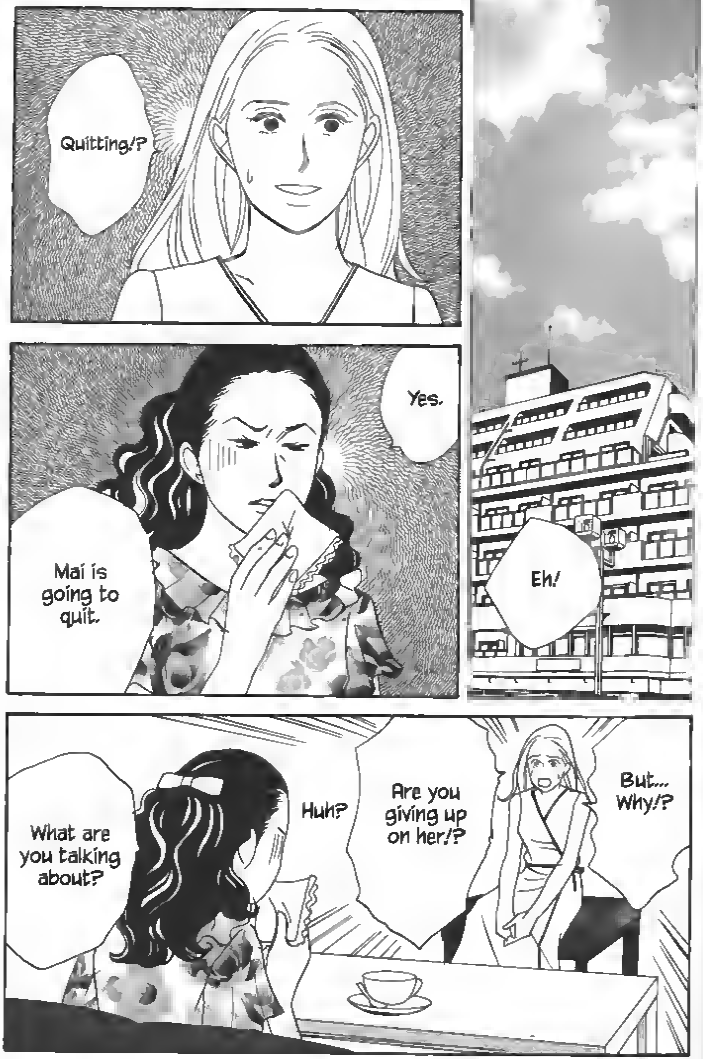
ガチャッ
GACHA
I'm going to get her to play today for sure.
Coming!
That must be Megumi-chan.
ピンポーン
DING DONG
Rika-chan-sensei!
ブーン
BUZZZZZ
Kyhaa!!
ブブブ
BUZZZZZ
Flies!?
Ah~!
ドサーッ
KATHUNK
Hello!

Why are you carrying those, Megumi-chan!?
It's gross! Megumi-chan!
BUZZZZZZ
BUZZZZZZ
Those are peanut butter and jelly sandwiches they served at school a long time ago
etc...
But they're rotten!
But, but...!
BUZZZZZZ
Because we're not supposed to throw food away, right?
Mine aren't very stinky, but they sound good. That's why they always compliment me!
But the worst are Yoko's (Mom)!
But Tatsuo's (Dad) farts are more stinky.
OHH.
How about yours?
Stinky! This smells awful!
Who's Kisaburo?
Yeah, it does. Like Kisaburo's farts.
My grandpa.

OK!
Then, do it now!
I'm not kidding!
No way!
Eh!
I farted one like do-re-mi the other day!
FFOOFF
ボフ
PFF
SNICKER
Liar! You liar!
Hm?
Ah...

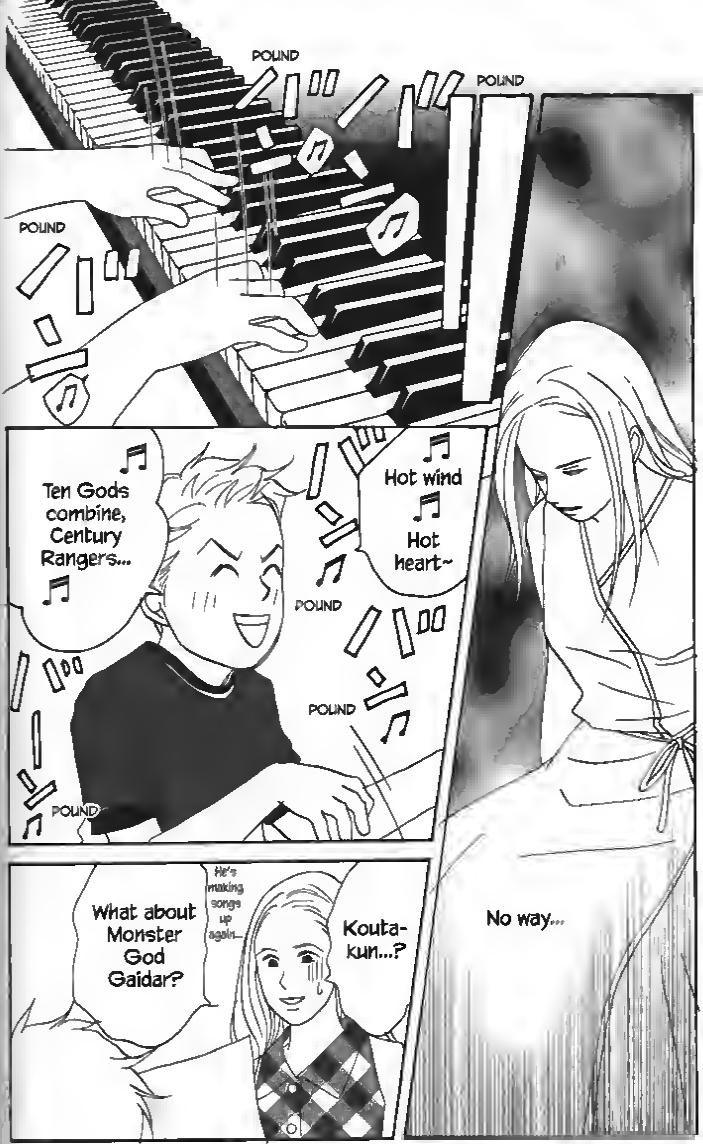

Once again
I couldn't get her to take her lesson.
Megumi-chan's been coming here for 3 months now.
But she still hasn't played the piano.
I wanted her to touch the keys today for sure!
SNIFFLE

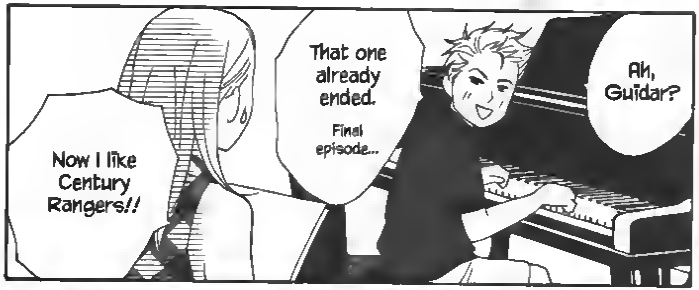
Chopin's Fantasie-Impromptu
Fantasie-Im
15
I hope they'll be able to play this song someday.
TAP
TAP


Quitting!?
Yes.
Mai is going to quit.
Eh!
But... Why!?
Are you giving up on her!?
Huh?
What are you talking about?

I don't mean to contradict you but....
I think that class will be too hard for Mai-chan...
Eh?
I want her to start taking lessons at Hanazakura Piano Class.
She's been playing Baieru over and over for 2 months.
And you gave her a lesson for castanets!
She's not an infant!
I've heard that the instructor is famous and an excellent teacher.
I can't believe your caliber of teaching!
I've heard rumors about them. Weren't they kicked out of Hanazakura's class!?
And... Your other two students!

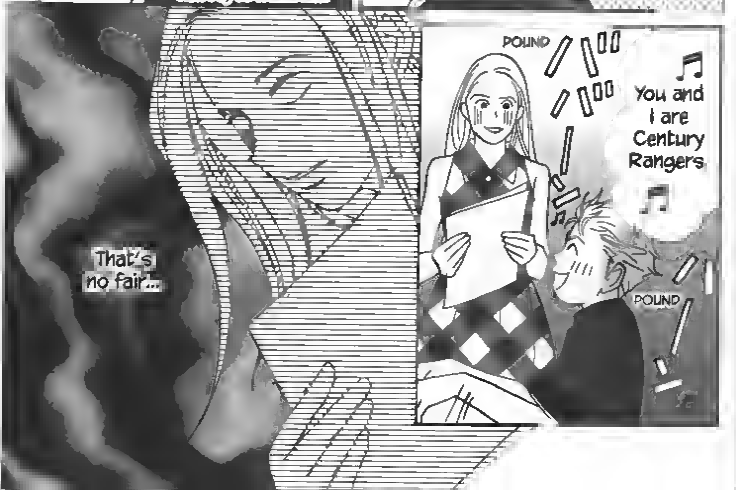
Megumi-chan's "P-op"! Megumi-chan's "F-rt"! That's all she talks about.
My daughter gets all excited and has to tell us about that right in the middle of dinner!!
What kind of lessons are you giving her!?
Every time, every time!
And "P-op," and "F-rt"
But... I disinfect everything.
I don't think we have a hygiene problem.
What are you talking about!?
ANGER
I'm talking about problems with mental hygiene!!
I can't believe a teacher who graduated from Momogaoka Music University is so vulgar!
Mai's going to quit your class!
SLAM
TUITION
Anyway!

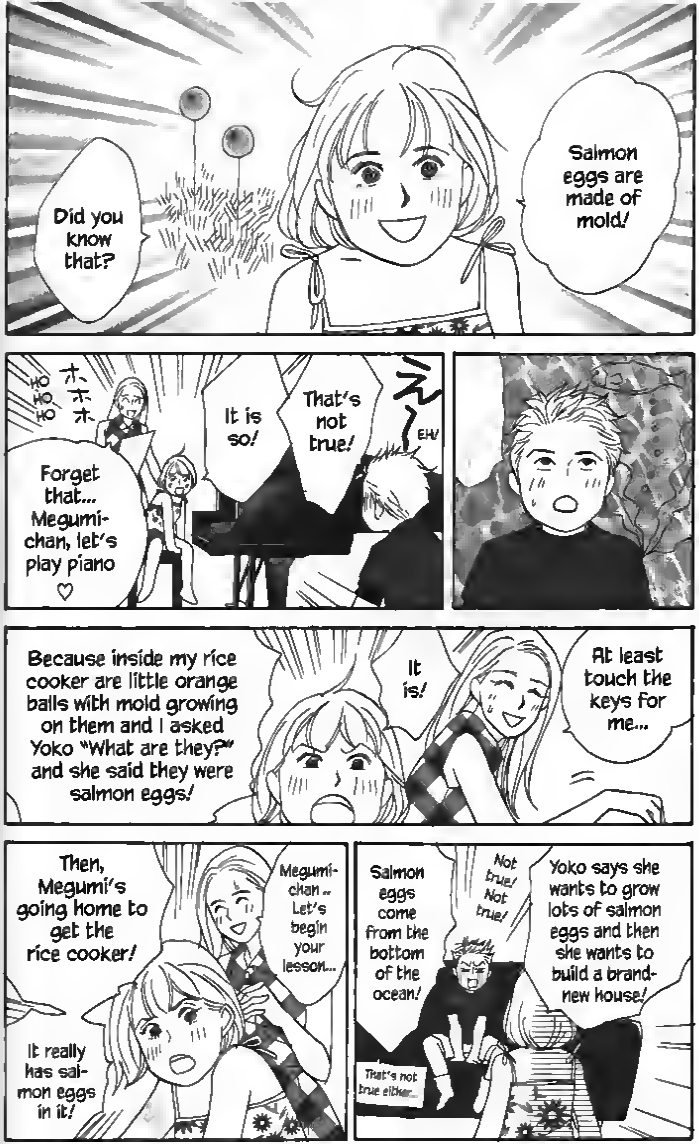

POUND
POUND
POUND
Ten Gods combine, Century Rangers...
Hot wind
Hot heart~
POUND
POUND
POUND
No way...
Kouta-kun...?
He's making songs up again...
What about Monster God Gaidar?


Now I like Century Rangers!!
That one already ended.
Final episode...
Ah, Guidar?

There's a new rangers series coming up.
I have to keep up with the new TV shows!
Who cares about Gaidar!
New toy to transform

So why don't you learn it on the piano ♡
We wrote out music for it...
But... Kouta-kun, you sang the theme for Gaidar.
Eh~~!


That's no fair...
POUND
You and I are Century Rangers
POUND

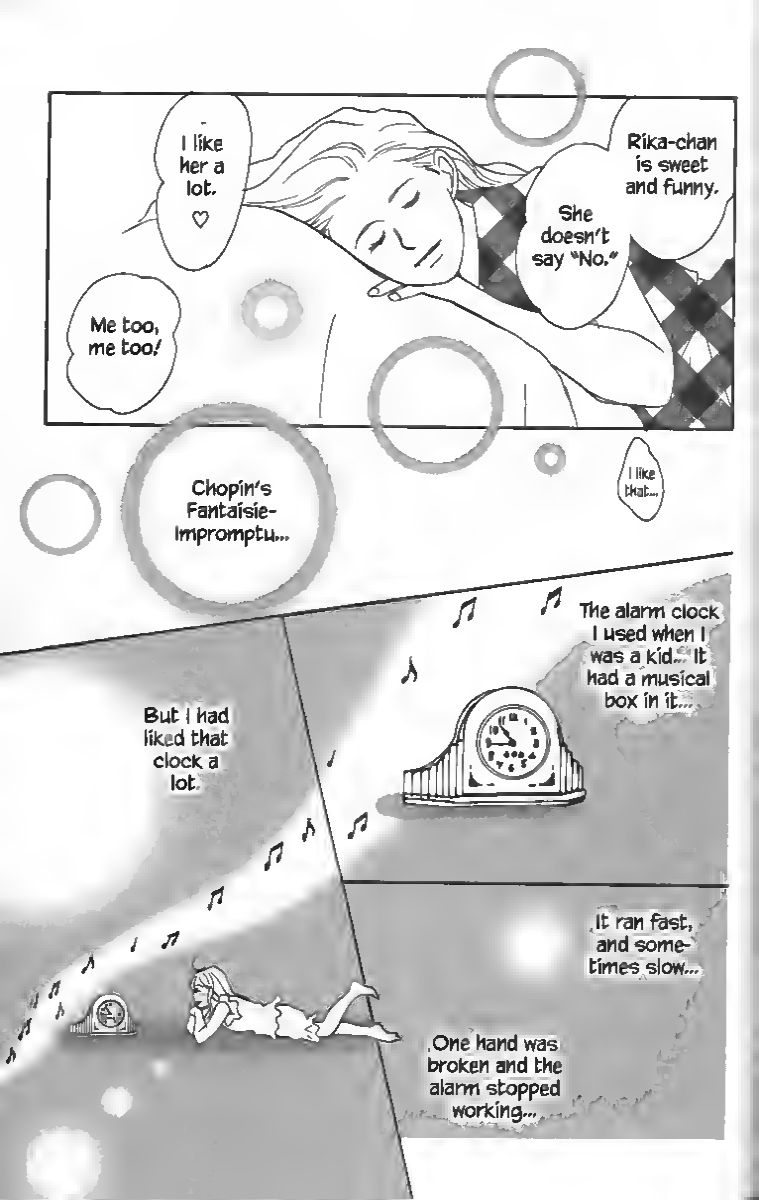

Salmon eggs are made of mold!
Did you know that?
EW!
That's not true!
It is so!
HO HO HO
Forget that... Megumi-chan, let's play piano ♡
At least touch the keys for me...
It is!
Because inside my rice cooker are little orange balls with mold growing on them and I asked Yoko "What are they?" and she said they were salmon eggs!
Yoko says she wants to grow lots of salmon eggs and then she wants to build a brand-new house!
Not true! Not true!
Salmon eggs come from the bottom of the ocean!
That's not true either.
Megumi-chan... Let's begin your lesson...
Then, Megumi's going home to get the rice cooker!
It really has salmon eggs in it!

RINGGGG
Megumi-chan!!
That's enough...!
SLAM
You're such a horrible student!!
Oh!

I can't believe your caliber of teaching!
I'm sorry...
Uh...
What did I just say...!?
CRY
うわーん
CRY
うわーん
Mai quitting is all my fault...
わーん
CRY

Poor Rika-chan...
I think she wants us to play piano.
PING
ポ
Really?
♫
I think so.
I've played, but Megumi-chan has never played piano yet.
Then, I'm gonna play ♡
the lullaby that Rika-chan plays.

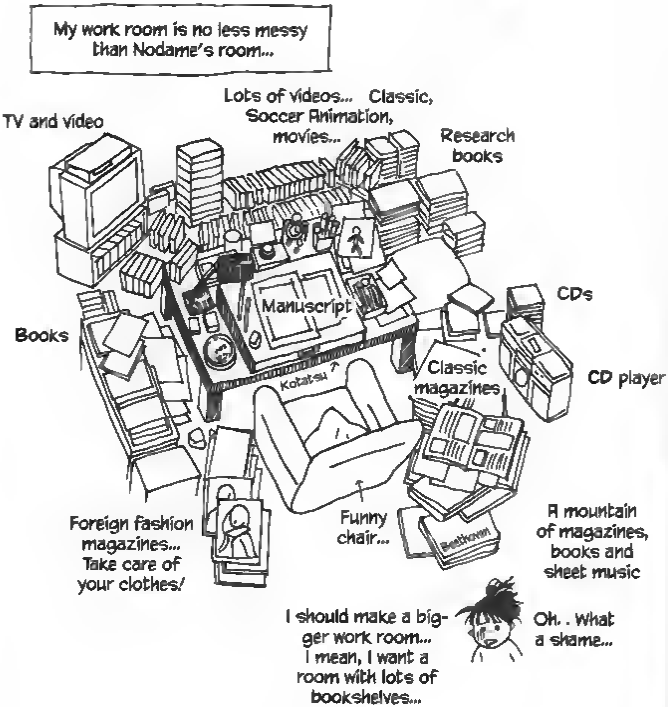
Megumi-chan, you're great!
You can play it even though you've only heard it a few times.
Why did you quit your previous class even though you can play well?
Because that teacher yelled at me and it was a boring class.
I like Rika-chan-sensei better!
"Go abroad!" That's what she said to me.
I don't want to leave.
So do I, so do I!


I like her a lot. ♡
Rika-chan is sweet and funny.
She doesn't say "No."
Me too, me too!
I like that...
Chopin's Fantaisie-Impromptu...
The alarm clock I used when I was a kid... It had a musical box in it...
But I had liked that clock a lot.
It ran fast, and sometimes slow...
One hand was broken and the alarm stopped working...

DRIP
Ah!
I drooled on you.
Whaa!
It's your fault! Megumi-chan!
KYHRR!
Run!
WHRR
A HA HA
あはは
Rika-chan is not food!
Her smell was so good.
HOOO
We were supposed to scare her!

BING
TUITION
Mai-chan....!?
AHAHA
Mai-chan, you're back!
My mom gave in!
WHAAA
Rika-chan came back too.
The sound of a piano, singing and kids laughing
KYAAAA
Mai-chan came back.
Mai-chan came back.
BANG BANG
TATAP
TAP

This is my dream piano class.
SNIFFLE ヒック
Mommy...
SNIFFLE ヒック
I want to go to the piano class that Megumi-chan goes to!
I'm bored.
That's ridiculous!
Don't you know she's studying abroad!?
CRYING
You should try your best too!
Nobody knew Megumi had so much hidden talent.

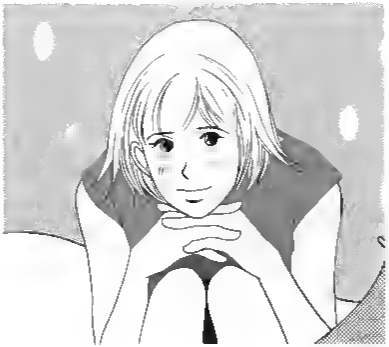

My work room is no less messy than Nodame's room...
TV and video
Lots of videos... Classic, Soccer Animation, movies...
Research books
CDs
Books
Manuscript
Kotatsu
Classic magazines
CD player
Foreign fashion magazines... Take care of your clothes!
Funny chair...
Beethoven
A mountain of magazines, books and sheet music
I should make a bigger work room... I mean, I want a room with lots of bookshelves...
Oh. . What a shame...

Thank you for helping me in my research!

• Nodame, thank you for offering the "Miso" font!!
*The real Nodame made this font.
The "Miso" font is from Megumiso.

• Hoshino, Daichi-kun, thank you for offering all the music information I needed.

• Ueda, Sho (nao)-kun, thank you for the ticket to your public performance!
Your cello playing was cool.



We look forward to hearing your opinions and impressions about *Nodame Cantabile.*
Please send your comments to delreymanga@randomhouse.com.

About the Author

Tomoko Ninomiya was born in Saitama in 1969. She made her debut as manga-ka with "London Doubt Boys" in 1989. Her main works include "Green" and "Miho the Trend Queen." She is currently working on "Nodame Cantabile," which is serialized in *Kiss* (Kodansha).

Here is Tomoko Ninomiya's comment upon winning the 28th Kodansha Manga Award in 2004:

"I hope someone enjoys reading this series. This hope and wish is what always motivates me when working on a manga.

"The original inspiration for 'Nodame Cantabile' came from an idea that I had, that it might be fun to write about a young piano student who practices the piano in a room full of junk. Looking back, I am amazed that my editor and the magazine let me serialize it, and I'm grateful.

"This is also a series which would not have been possible without the generous cooperation of music students and professionals whom I interviewed. The Manga Award goes to everyone who was involved with 'Nodame,' including Mikawa-san my editor and all the staff members who work with me.

"I will continue to enjoy working on this series, and I hope my readers will continue to enjoy it too."

Translation Notes

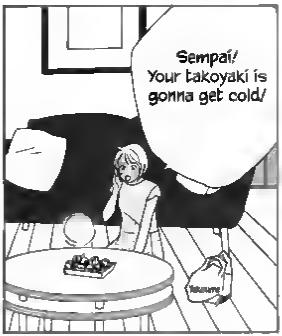
Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more art than science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction in our translation of the work, or where a Japanese cultural reference is used.

yakyuken, pages 14, 107

Yakyuken is a game similar to strip poker where the loser of each round must take off a piece of clothing. The play is based on "rock-paper-scissors" and Stresemann is always inviting young girls to play it with him.

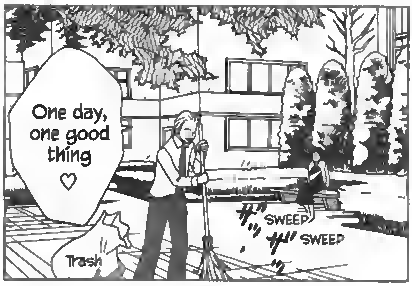
takoyaki and takoume, page 18

Takoyaki is a popular Japanese dumpling made of battered octopus topped with sauce and mayonnaise. Making takoyaki requires a takoyaki, a special frying pan made of cast iron with half-spherical molds.



Takoume is octopus with fermented plum paste. Usually served with sliced cucumber, it's very sweet with a strongly tart aftertaste.

ichinichi ichizen, page 44



Franz has changed his ways since meeting Minako Momodaira again. As he is sweeping the leaves up, he recites a Japanese idiom "ichinichi ichizen," which means to do one good deed every day. Then as a town crier used to do every night, he is calling out a reminder for people to lock their doors and extinguish any candles or fires in the house to have a safe night's rest.

"Baby," page 55

Elise calls Shinichi something similar to "little boy"... a little bit flirty, a little bit condescending. It has been translated as "baby."

meditation, page 77

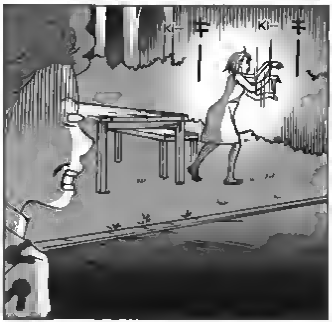
Shinichi is meditating to clear his mind of the fear he has of the ocean. His friends return and are being noisy, so he tries to keep his mind clear by thinking to himself "Don't look, don't listen, don't talk," the Japanese idiom "Mizaru, kikazaru, iwazaru." He doesn't say the third one, but we get the picture.

a failure to communicate, page 99

In addition to not paying attention, Nodame doesn't understand English well enough to give the proper responses to the instructor. She is flustered and gets thrown out of the class at the end of the scene.

possessed, page 134

Megumi has been kicked out of her piano class and she is depressed. But as always with Nodame, nothing is normal, and she is clawing at the air and acting very strange. As Masumi later describes it, "She looked like she was possessed by an orangutan."



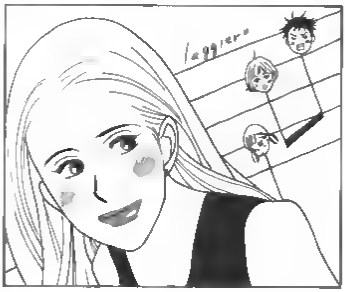
Sagojo, page 137

Sagojo is a character from a Chinese-book-turned-Japanese-made-for-TV series in the late '70s. The boy that Mine is calling "Sagojo" looks like that character in the movie. The boy, returning the insult, calls Mine "Monkey." Though there's no indication that Mine knows it, "Saiyuku" was retitled "Monkey" for the English version.

Shinkansen, page 149

The Shinkansen, also known as the "bullet train," is one of the fastest trains in the world, with speeds of up to 300km/h or 186mph. Although many countries, including the USA, still have no trains running at this speed, the Shinkansen started running in 1964.

Rika-chan-sensei's Fun Baieru, page 151



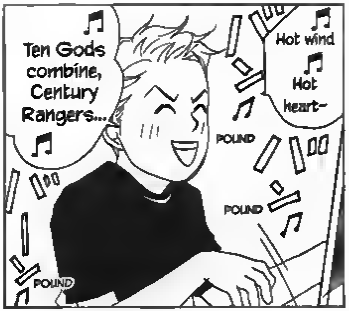
This extra story revolves around a young piano teacher trying to earn a living as an instructor just after leaving college. She has only three students, and they're not very good. One of them is Nodame, and from the beginning she's definitely not an average kid. The story gives us a little background on Nodame. She's always been a weird kid, that's for sure. The whole bit about farts is hilarious and shows us what an odd girl she was even then.

Monster God Gaidar, page 153

Monster God Gaidar is a fictitious action series, as well as Baridon soldiers "ba-ri-do-n."

Century Rangers, page 172

This obviously is a play on Power Rangers. There are ten rangers here (Power Rangers usually had 5), and we called them the Century Rangers.

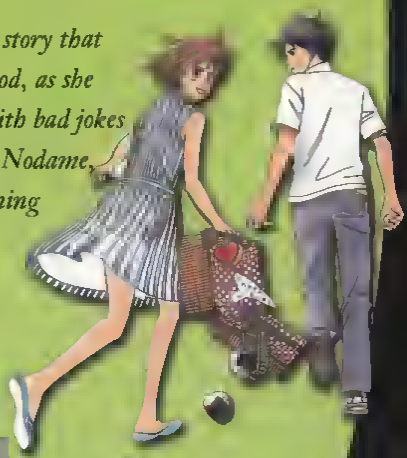


DIS-BAND CAMP

Milch may be down, but he's definitely not out. In fact, he's back to take (or is it to force?) the gang to participate in the Nagano Music Festival. In preparation for the festival, the students go to a band camp where they do much more than just play music. Chiaki confronts his fear of the ocean; Mine spends his time getting a tan worth singing about; and Nodame the "orangutan," after the humiliation of getting kicked out of a master class, gets set to prove that she can really play the piano. There are plenty of high jinks—and nobody escapes unscathed.

Plus, there's a hilarious extra story that takes us back to Nodame's childhood, as she drives her piano teacher insane with bad jokes and month-old sandwiches. With Nodame, expect the unexpected from beginning to end!

Includes special extras after the story!



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